









**A WIFE'S CRIME.**  
**Murder and Suicide.**

A terrible domestic drama, thoroughly French in all its details, has been worked out at Gentilly, near Paris. A butcher named Christophe was killed in his shop by his wife, who afterwards committed suicide. The pair were both young and had lately fallen in business. Madame Christophe had two bullet wounds in the temples, one of which in its passage tore out an eye. Her husband's brains had been blown out. Under the woman's body the police inspector found a letter, which was worded as follows:—"I have just killed my husband. Good-bye! I regret it, but it was necessary; my credit was gone." On the morning on the mantelpiece please give 10fr. to our assistant, and the rest to the driver. Good-bye all!" Below this was written in a feeble hand:—"I have just put a bullet into my head, but it did not kill me. It has blown out an eye, but I am now going to finish myself by the side of my husband. Good-bye everybody, and pardon me! So ran the words of the madwoman, pensive green hair, and neatly dressed. The inspector stated that the woman died endeavouring to drag herself over her husband, in order to give herself the terrible coup de grace which was to launch her into the next world. According to some of the gossip of Gentilly, the terrible deed of Madame Christophe was dictated, notwithstanding fear of poverty, but owing to jealousy. Her husband had a reputation for gallantry in the neighbourhood, and it was said that his demeanour towards two young women who patronised his shop had frequently raised the ire of his wife.

**ATTEMPTED SUICIDE THROUGH DISAPPOINTED LOVE.**

At the Marlborough-street Police Court, Louis Hughes, from Westbourne Park Villas, Paddington, was charged with attempting to commit suicide.—Constable 338 A. said that whilst on duty in Hyde Park about eight o'clock on the previous night he saw the prisoner come on to the bridge from the Kensington side, throw something into the water, then mount the bridge, and go down to the ledge on the other side. She did not perceive him, and he could barely see her on account of the fog. He ran up, and just as she was about to take a plunge into the water below he seized her and dragged her back. Then she said, "Oh, dear! let me go, I shall be happier there." As the constable sided, and she again declined to allow her to receive the assistance of a young man to whom she was devotedly attached, and she was told that if she persisted in keeping his company she was not to come home again.—Mr. Bathurst Norman, for the defence, said the prisoner, a young woman of undeniably good character, was engaged to a young man respectfully connected in the service of a West-end firm, but as he was young and not yet in a position to earn sufficient money to maintain a wife, he could not marry the prisoner, and her parents had tried to deter them from meeting each other. On the previous day some words passed between Miss Hughes and her mother, when she left home, and in a fit of desperation, or not thinking of the serious step she was taking, she rushed to the bridge, where her life was saved by the constable as described. Her lover would undertake, if the magistrate would let her go, to look after her; and on her own behalf the accused asked him (Mr. Norman) to express her deep regret at the folly of her action.—Mr. Hannay said the constable was greatly to be commended for the promptitude with which he had acted. He would release the prisoner on proper security being given that she would never repeat the offence.

At the Greenwich Police Court on Thursday, William Zimmerman, of Woodcock-road, Deptford, was summoned before the Bench of the Board of Works for selling coffee adulterated with 70 per cent. of chicory. It was stated that the mixture cost the defendant about 9d. per pound, and he sold it for 1s. 4d. He was fined 40s. and costs. Augustus Wood, grocer, of Eddington-road, Deptford, was fined 20s. for adulterating coffee to the extent of 80 per cent. with chicory; and Thomas Smith, of Bayswater-road, Deptford, was fined 20s. for 10 per cent.

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## OUR OMNIBUS.

## THE M.P.

Respecting the sensational divorce case, *Shea v. O'Shea* and *Parnell*, one word may be said without prejudice to either party. It is to appreciate everything in the shape of press and platform comment until the trial is ended and judgment is pronounced. No one can say that this caution is unnecessary after the scandalous methods employed by Separatist writers and speakers to discount the judgment of the special commission. Even the accused themselves have considered it within the bounds of propriety to go shouting about the country that the whole case against them broke down with the *Figgett* letters. It did not, and they know it. There would have been a strong prima facie case against them even if the *Figgett* letters had been turned out to be the infamous forgeries.

Although it is rather late in the day, I tender to Mr. Gladstone my sincere congratulations and good wishes on the completion of his eightieth year. We are all proud of him in the House—even we to whom his political principles are anathema. And there are Englishmen who are not proud of the brave old warrior, still fighting as hard, if not with the same skill, as he did half a century ago? Long may he live to fight, even though it be for a hopelessly rotten cause.

The Parnellites are never tired of protesting their love and veneration for the Queen and their loyalty to the Crown. Methinks, they do protest too much. It would be pleasant, by way of a change, were they to demonstrate their loyalty by acts instead of words. At the farwell banquet given by the Lord Mayor of Dublin—a Home Rule dinner, of course—the health of the Queen was received in dead silence by the majority of the guests, while not a few refused to rise from their seats. Parnellite loyalty evidently needs the prefix "dis" to convey its true meaning.

Being such a good and great man, Sir William Harcourt naturally received a number of presents during Christmas. Amongst others was a heavy package, which so excited his suspicions—he has not yet quite got over his dynamite tremors—that he sent it away to be opened in the stable. The contents proved to be a fine obese plum pudding, with his own speaking countenance modelled on one side, including the triple chin and dewlap. The insulting gift was, of course, given to the poor.

It seems to me very doubtful whether any Government would care to raise the question whether a combination of trade unions amounts to a conspiracy within the meaning of the Statute Book. Not being learned in the law, I offer no opinion on the legal aspect of the question, but, looking at it from a political standpoint, employers would be foolish, I think, to place any trust in Ministerial action. Every Government is under compulsion to have regard for its own existence, and I doubt whether it would be long continued if the working classes believed an effort was being made to prevent labour organisations from getting allies.

The Indian National Congress of 1889 has come and gone, leaving behind it a legacy of nonsense and flapdoodle. Mr. Bradlaugh orated, Sir William Wedderburn bleated, and numerous black gentlemen spouted the usual cant of the day. And then the mighty assembly faded away into the original nothingness, and the "great heart of India" again took to regular pulsations. Perhaps the most amusing feature of the whole ridiculous affair is that the natives evidently regarded Mr. Bradlaugh and Sir William Wedderburn as personages of immense weight in England. It is said that the former was repeatedly addressed as "your grace," and the latter as "my lord," the native conviction being that they must be very high up in the British peacocks.

The jubilee of the penny post will be celebrated with befitting honours on the 15th inst., and also later on. Let us hope that the postal authorities and the public between them will adopt some means to gladden the hearts of the postmen. True, they have just received a new set of boxes, but I feel sure they would not object to a repetition of that agreeable process; or, better still, because of its more permanent character, would be a jubilee subscription to augment the pension fund which was established a couple of years back.

A strange story comes to me from a source which I have generally found trustworthy. It runs to the effect that the main object of Mr. Parnell's recent visit to the Continent was not to be given out, but to consult about Separatist tactics next session, but to ask Mr. Gladstone whether the O'Shea complication did not render it expedient to appoint a locum tenens to the Irish leadership until after the trial. Mr. Parnell was strongly counselled not to dream of such a thing, his adviser declaring that it would surely be misinterpreted by the public in a very injurious way.

A jolly squire with whom I was dining the other night expressed a belief, as we sat over the wine and the wine, that M.P.'s must find the latter part of the recess very wearisome. "I can imagine your being very glad to get away from St. Stephen's after six months' work," he went on; "but even schoolboys get bored when holidays are unduly prolonged. Well, I cannot say that my own feelings run in that direction, but I should feel deeply grieved were the recess prolonged until Easter. For legitimate business I have plenty of liking, but it exhausts one's philosophy to have to listen, week after week and month after month, to windy verbiage and Hibernian rowdiness. To my mind, a model Parliament would be one in which only two speeches from either side were allowed, and any bill or motion, and when questioning was done in writing before-hand. That would abridge proceedings considerably."

## OLD IZAAK.

Mr. C. H. Cook, one of the speakers at the Fly Fishers' annual dinner, writes to me as follows:— "I did not say, as reported, that there were more fish in the Thames than ever. It would be more correct to say that I supposed that while we take out so many coarse fish, and comparatively few so few, that fish generally would increase. But trout have increased, the simple reason being that for every trout ten or more coarse fish will be taken. However, there is a very good head of coarse fish in the river, all things being considered, and much do anglers owe the T.A.P.S. and the Upper Thames angling preservation associations. In years to come, perhaps, coarse fish will be cultivated on a really large scale, and I hope to live to see the day when I may truthfully make the statement which the reporter has put into my mouth."

Previous to the rise and discoloration of the Thames' pike, roach, and dace were beginning to feed, some of the anglers fishing the upper waters getting a few really decent pike. Mr. Newbury, fishing with J. Keen, jun., of Staines, has taken a fine roach, weighing nearly 2lb.; another day with Mr. Waterer, three dozen roach and a pike of 10lb.; and another day, with two anglers, five dozen fine roach. At Sunbury, Mr. Morgan, fishing with Herbert, has captured five brace of small pike, the largest fish nearly 1lb. At Kingston, John Johnson has been getting some nice roach and dace. In the tidal waters the fishing has been principally confined to raking for dace, with the exception of J. Spong, who has been getting a few fine bream and roach at Twickenham.

The dinner to the river-keepers of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, Thames Conservancy, and others associated with them in the protection of the river below the City Stone at Staines, will take place at the Castle Hotel, Hampton Court, on Friday evening, January 24th. Mr. A. Nutball, J.F., treasurer, will preside. During a conversation I had with Mr. Brougham, the secretary of the T.A.P.S., who has always got up these reunions, he informed me that with only some half a dozen exceptions out of over eighty subscribers, the amount was all made up by

members of the society, and although the result of the appeal has nearly realised the amount asked for, it is to be hoped the outside anglers will yet show they take some small interest in the men who assist in protecting their favourite amusement.

I hear that an angler's air and half-casting tournament is to be held on the lakes of Killarney on a very extensive scale, to commence on Monday, 24th April, and which will be carried out by the Kerry Fish Preservation Association. A number of good prizes have already been promised, Messrs. Dunville and Co. having promised a ten-gallon cask of their best whisky. An effort is to be made to get his excellency the Viceroy to be present and open the tournament.

The steam trawler *St. Giles*, Captain Morgan, while trawling off the Abercrombie coast, captured a large shark, which had got entangled in the gear. It was over seventeen feet long, and was sold for 17s. for manure.

My correspondent, "Young Isaac," wishes to know the difference between the perch and pike. I take it for granted that as he is a member of an angling club he must know what a perch is like. But a good many men who have been fishing for years never saw a pike; I will therefore do my best to describe it. The pike is very like a small perch, but with a curiously formed single dorsal fin; the colour of the back is a dusky olive green, the sides light brownish green, and small brown spots are spread over the dorsal fin, the back, and tail. The pectoral, ventral, and anal fins are pale brown. This fish rarely exceeds six inches in length, its habits and habits are like those of the perch, and it feeds on small fry and worms. Great numbers of these fish used to be caught from above Teddington Lock to the mouth of the Mole.

## PIPER PAN.

I congratulate Dr. Frederick Bridge on his production of a work worthy of a distinguished place in Church of England services. I am glad to perform "He Giveth His beloved sleep" for the first time at the burial of Robert Browning in Westminster Abbey on Tuesday, 2nd inst. Composed within the brief space of two days, it shows no trace of hurry, but is a veritable inspiration, the spirit of the beautiful poem by the late Elizabeth Barrett Browning having been illustrated by the composer in music, which is varied according to the themes successively presented, and full of sympathetic melody, simply but delightfully harmonised.

The repetition at the end of each of the three verses of the refrain, "He giveth His beloved sleep," sung pianissimo, is very touching, reminding me of the sublime effect produced at the funeral of St. Bernardine by his exquisite unaccompanied quartette, "God is a Spirit," which filled many eyes with tears. Mrs. Barrett Browning's verses are worthy of the distinguished poetess, whose remains I hope to see placed with those of the great poet, her husband; but I must frankly say that I cannot pretend to admire the lines. "The poet's star-tuned harp." I can excuse the defective prosody of the second and third words, but a "star-tuned harp" is surely absurd.

Dr. Frederick Bridge, in his cantata, "Callirhoe," and in other works, has shown strong dramatic instincts, and it would not surprise me were he to compose the music of a grand opera. Why should he not, although organist of Westminster Abbey? "Dido and Æneas," the first English opera ever produced on the stage of a theatre, was composed by Henry Purcell, the greatest composer of anthems, church services, and other ecclesiastical music that England has, up to this time, produced.

On several occasions I have had the pleasure of meeting the late Mr. Browning in musical society, and have more than once been struck by the shrewdness of his criticism, but I do not believe that he had a musical organisation. There are noble passages in his poetry, but scarcely any part of it is suitable to musical treatment. He did not care to clothe his ideas in lyrical forms, nor to express them in symmetrical cadences. He thus threw aside important sources of popularity, and weakened his chances of enduring fame, if I am justified in asserting that very few poets have won perennial popularity unless they have penned lyrics for the delight of their contemporaries and their posterity.

The lyrics of Shakespeare are sung by thousands of singers who are unable to say in which of his plays they are to be found. The lyrics of Herrick are to this day more widely known than the poems of Dryden and Pope. The exquisite lyrics of Longfellow and Tennyson will be popular long after Wordsworth is forgotten, and without further defence of my argument—let me say that, with few exceptions, the posthumous popularity of poets is built on "music, married to immortal verse."

At one of our theatres Offenbach's "Rose of Auvergne" has been announced for performance. Offenbach never composed any work so entitled. He wrote the music of the "Fête de St. Flour," and my deceased friend, H. B. Farnie, wrote an English adaptation which, in spite of my remonstrances, he entitled "The Rose of Auvergne." He had a mania for altering the works of other folk.

As one wrote for him the English adaptation of a French opera, in which a timid old philosopher had to call out "Who is there?" and his serving-maid replied, "Tis I, Tessie." When the adaptation was published, I found that Farnie had altered this reply to "It's me, Tessie," and one of my "d-d" good-natured friends favoured me with an expression of his regret at my reluctance in writing such "terribly bad grammar."

The untimely death of Frank Marshall is deeply regretted by a large circle of friends, and by none more than myself. The last time I saw him was at his house in Bloomsbury-square, and he showed me a number of rare old books he had recently purchased. In several newspapers mention is made of the libretto he wrote for an opera entitled "Bior." It appears to have been forgotten that this was a lyrical adaptation of Shakespeare's "Macbeth"; the music by an Italian composer, whose name I have forgotten. Libretto and music were well written, but at the first performance—in the Queen's Theatre—I saw that the incompetency of nearly all the leading performers must prove fatal, as it did, to the permanent success of the opera.

Poor Frank spent over £3,000 on the production of this opera, to please his first wife, of whom he was passionately fond, and who impersonated Bior's wife, otherwise Lady Macbeth. She was a fine woman, and her voice was of agreeable quality, but she had no idea of acting, and was the chief cause of the failure of "Bior."

There is some excellent music in the "Cinderella" pantomime at Her Majesty's Theatre, but it is to be regretted that the names of the eminent composers who are said to have co-operated in furnishing the music are not given in connection with their respective compositions. I believe that the clever overture is the work of the conductor, Mr. Edward Solomon, and the beautiful music to the procession of Shakespearean personages by Mr. Alfred Cellier.

I regret to learn that Mr. Alfred Cellier is seriously indisposed. He is not only a gifted musician, but genial, kind-hearted, and amiable; always ready to point out the merits of other composers, and very difficult to get into his compositions. There is an elegance about all his compositions, which is evidence of innate refinement, and his conversation on musical topics has often given me much gratification.

It is amusing to read the enthusiastic praise given by provincial journals in France, Belgium,

and Italy to artists who hold third-rate positions here. The *Progrès du Nord*, published at Lille, speaks thus of Mlle. Gamberge, who sang in England with but modest success last season:—"She is a great artist!" and the preceding season—"The most notable of her pieces were 'The Minstrel,' 'The Fairy Circle,' and 'Gloria.' At least two of Mr. Gamberge's children are actors, and very clever they are."

## BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

At the beginning of a new year it always seems reasonable and appropriate to put in a good word for the dumb creation. So far, the winter has been sufficiently mild to allow of town birds putting up a living for themselves. But "General January" and "February" — to use the Quartermaster's immortal phrase—stand in front of us, and will probably prove as inhospitable as in previous years. I would therefore appeal to all householders, rich and poor alike, to throw out the crumbs for the benefit of our little feathered friends, and also to supply them with a saucer of clean water every morning. The trouble is slight, the expense all, the good effected immense, both to the birds themselves and to their benefactors. As well, it is a hard, material, grasping age, and all the better for any help to keep their kindly feelings from becoming frozen.

It would savour of ingratitude on my part if I did not return hearty thanks to the very numerous correspondents who, during 1889, sent me interesting bits about natural history. I hope—and my readers will, I feel assured, echo the aspiration—that they will continue their favours during the present year. Compelled as I am to live in London for the greater part of my time, it is not often in my power to visit those happy hunting grounds of the naturalist which country folks have at their disposal. May I, then, invite them to put a few lines into the post whenever they come across anything which appears to be out of the common?

An old friend, now resident in India, writes me that Prince Albert Victor's marksmanship is anything but first-rate. A story is told that one day when the Prince was beating a jungle for big game on an elephant, a peacock flew across at the moment when a fine black buck broke cover. The royal sportsman aimed, of course, at the latter, but somehow or other the bullet must have fetched a circumlocution, for the peacock fell dead, whereas the deer bounded away unscathed.

Another yarn tells how a certain native fell with whom the prince was staying always posted cooties with dead game in the jungle, at different points, before the sport began. Then, when the usual time took place, out would rush one of these assistants and present to the royal sportsman a trophy of his unerring skill. But if my memory is not astray, that very tale used to be told years ago of another royal personage while on tour in the East.

A correspondence has recently taken place in a leading morning paper concerning the cruelty attendant on the capture of the fur seal for the purpose of depriving it of its coat. It seems doubtful whether, after all, the suffering inflicted is as great as it has sometimes been made out to be. Anyhow, the process now employed seems the only one that is adopted under the circumstances. A great quantity of seals are suddenly come upon, the time for killing them is very short, and the hunters, therefore, do it as rapidly as possible. The pathetic, intelligent look of the seals doubtless renders them peculiarly attractive to most people, but still they are very useful, whether for fur, skin, or oil, and they must be killed. That such a thing should be regarded as humane is possible, is, of course, the result of a very right-minded person, but to denounce the seal hunters indiscriminately as savages is foolish.

On looking over a youngster's collection of postage stamps the other day I was much struck by the happy idea some countries have of placing on the stamp the image of some representative of animal instead of the wearisome bas-reliefs of kings and queens or uninteresting emblems and devices. Thus I noticed among others a duck-billed platypus on a Tasmanian stamp, a beaver on a Canadian one, while Newfoundland showed a seal, a cod fish, and one of its large dogs on various specimens. Guatemala is represented by the macaw, Western Australia has a black swan, Peru has a couple of llamas, and other countries other animals. I wish that this custom was more generally adopted on some of the stamps of each country, at all events.

It was quite recently that I had to ask correspondents not to send me the dead bodies of their pets for medical examination. I am sorry to say that my request has been disregarded, the postman bringing me a defunct canary-bird. I must absolutely decline to search for the cause of death, and again must ask my readers not to send me any more corpses.

Mr. T. Cleod, of Southampton, very kindly sends a piece of a plant, veronica, on which on Christmas Day he observed two bees feasting. The weather was then very mild at Southampton, and my correspondent's garden faces westward, so that the two little insects were tempted out of their gloomy winter quarters to take their Christmas dinner, and I hope they enjoyed it.

## THE ACTOR.

There has always been a good deal of collaboration in dramatic authorship, from the days of Beaumont and Fletcher to those of Sims and Pettitt. Why should there not be collaboration in dramatic criticism? Anyhow, the experiment is going to be tried in the pages of a monthly magazine, whose issue for January contains the first results of the joint venture. The writers are man and wife, so (if the time-honoured gibe be well-founded) it will be rather wonderful if they continue to agree for long!

Suppose they flatly disagree on certain points, as dramatists so often do, what will the collaborators do then? Will they be silent on those points, or attempt a compromise? or will they settle between themselves which shall "do the whole 'notice'?" As a matter of fact, dramatic critics have often been largely assisted by their wives, whose views they have put into their own language, with such mitigation or heightening as their experience suggested. Some ladies I know are excellent judges of a play. Nay, are there not professional lady critics?

The event of the week, in theatrical circles, has been the death of Mr. Frank Marshall, which, however, did not come as a surprise to those within the "inner circle." It was known that he was suffering from jaundice, and that he had been relieved by the late Mr. Marshall (Miss Ada Cavendish) was very anxious, and that at least one of his intimate friends was waiting him daily. All this betokened danger, and consequently the news of his decease did not come to his acquaintances with the shock it would otherwise have given.

Of Marshall's more ambitious stage work, I suppose "False Shame" and "Brighton" (the latter was really only an adaptation) are the only ones that will survive, and these have not been seen for a long time. "False Shame" was first performed in 1872, the locale being the Globe Theatre, and the chief actors being Harry Montague, Rose Massey, Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Sophie Larkins, Mr. E. W. Garden, and Mr. John B. Kingston. America Clara Morris played the heroine. Everybody remembers Mr. Wyndham in "Brighton." Of Marshall's other pieces, the best known was "Gora," written in collaboration with Mr. W. G. Wills.

Another well-known figure has vanished from stage products—I refer to that of Mr. E. P. Gratian, who, I am surprised to see, was in his

last year when he died. He did not look so old, being still wonderfully slim and alert and vigorous. He wrote a good deal for the theatre in his time, but scarcely anything that he produced can be said to have survived. The most notable of his pieces were "The Minstrel," "The Fairy Circle," and "Gloria." At least two of Mr. Gratian's children are actors, and very clever they are."

The observed of all observers at Her Majesty's on Wednesday afternoon were Messrs. Arthur Cecil, Corny Grain, and George Grossmith, who occupied a private box on the prompt side. Of course they were very speedily "spotted" by those within viewing distance, and many were the glances directed at their box, especially when one of the wicked sisters in the pantomime spoke the line in which there occurs the famous pun on the name of Mr. Grain. Mr. Rutland Barrington was in the box, and all four comedians appeared to be delighted with what they saw.

Much interest is likely to be taken in the revival of "Forgiveness" at the Criterion. It is probably, on the whole, the second best of Mr. Albion's comedies, though some might dispute the point to say it is inferior to "Apple-blossoms." Anyhow, it will be very pleasant to see it again, after all these years. For it was brought out originally so long ago as 1872, and I do not remember any revival of it. The original cast included Miss Carlotta Addison, Mr. E. W. Garden and the late David Fisher.

The friendly struggle for the interim leasehold of Terry's Theatre has terminated in its being secured for the production of a new farcical comedy by Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, whose famous work hitherto has been of a serious cast. He is remembered by a play in which Miss G. Kingston represented an adventuresome, and by a poetical adaptation from the French, in which Mr. Giddens figured. But that he has a keen appreciation of the comic is shown in his latest volume, "Three Men in a Boat," as well as in his humorous satire on "Stage-land."

If Mr. Alfred Calmure had secured Terry's, he would have brought out two poetical plays of his, which have not yet seen the light. Very properly, however, he desires to secure for the representation of these works thoroughly competent people, and as these are not in all cases available at the present, he has done wisely to relinquish the project in the meantime. Both the plays I refer to are of a tragic cast, and need able handling by the players.

## GENERAL CHATTER.

If clergymen and churchwardens would look a little more closely after the ventilating and heating arrangements of their churches, they would soon see a sensible increase in the number of marriages. On Christmas morning I attended the church where we have sittings in company with all my family. There was a tremendous draught blowing right up the centre aisle, and within a few hours my unfortunate back was tortured with rheumatism and lumbago, while two of my sons were prostrated with feverish colds. Then congestion of the liver set up in all three cases, and a right dismal time we had of it during the festive season. Nor is this an isolated instance. I hear the same story every winter from friends who attend other churches. Women can afford to run the risk of getting laid up, but with breadwinners the case is different, and I make little doubt that numbers of men stay away from church simply and solely because they are afraid of having their business occupations brought to a standstill.

There is no reason whatever why draughts should be excluded from churches as effectually as they are from theatres and music halls. Even Mr. Irving would soon play to a beggarly array of empty benches if the Lyceum were a cavern of the winds during winter. I believe that one reason for the difference is the objection felt by many clergymen to have the outer doors shut during divine service, lest they should seem to be excluding tardy sinners. A priestly sentiment in its way, but for my own part I very strongly object to being frozen alive because a few sluggards like to cut it fine on Sunday mornings.

The sad death of the ex-Empress of Brazil may have been immediately due to heart complaint, but there cannot be the slightest doubt that the fatal ending of the disease was hastened by the burning indignation she must have felt at the treatment accorded to her and her husband by the republican party. The illustrious pair had devoted themselves, heart and soul, throughout their lives, to the welfare of Brazil, but their only reward was to be sent adrift with less ceremony than a householder would observe in discharging a servant. Even with her dying breath the ill-fated lady exclaimed, "Beautiful Brazil! They will not let me return!"

Owing to the threatened strike of the Gaslight and Coke Company's men, lamp and candle-sellers have been doing splendid business. One of these traders assured me that his shop had never done so well. "They just came in crowds, sir, last week," he said, rubbing his hands, "and they would buy anything, no matter how old-fashioned."

It would really be well, before going any further with the electric lighting of London, to have an official inquiry into the very numerous and very horrible accidents which have lately occurred in the United States. The averment goes that whether high tension or low tension be used, and no matter how skillfully the wires may be insulated, the electric fluid contrives to get through and shed fatal shocks around. But it is quite possible that these tragic tales are concocted in the interests of the American gas companies, which have suffered heavy losses through the rapid advance of the electric light in public favour.

Mr. Livesey must have suspected that the gas strikers were in league with the powers of darkness when King Fog swooped down upon the metropolis and exercised his relentless sway day after day. I doubt whether the funeral pall which overshadowed London last Monday was ever for absolute opacity. Not the faintest indication of light broke the gloomy arch overhead for several hours; it was as though this mighty city had been bodily thrust down into the bowels of the earth. But it is an ill wind that blows good to none; the gas strikers, I am told, seemed to mightily relish the darkness, predicting that it "would bring old Livesey to his senses if it only lasted another fortnight."

A Times telegram states that a native at Bangalore has just been sentenced to a year's rigorous imprisonment for "slipping" a native judge at the railway station. It may be as well to explain that when natives go for one another, each combatant frequently casts off one shoe, and picking it up, uses it as a bludgeon. It is a very innocuous weapon, the native shoe having a soft, pliant sole, stitched together instead of being nailed, while there is scarcely any heel. A smoot with it is not half so painful as a clout with a boring-glove.

Our Transatlantic cousins do not adopt severe repressive steps at once, they will assuage a Southern racial war on their hands before long. Recently there have been several serious fights between whites and blacks, each resulting in some deaths to both parties. But these battles pale to insignificance as indications of lawlessness in comparison with the murder of eight negroes at Barnwell, South Carolina. A mob of white rowdies burst into the jail where the negroes were confined, awaiting trial on a charge of murder, took them out, tied them to trees, and shot the whole lot in cold blood. It will not be wonderful should the blacks retaliate by assassinating an equal number of whites at the first opportunity.

There are still a few diamonds left at the Kimberley fields, it appears. During the month of November that centre of the industry exported gems to the value of £253,922, and the output

might have been largely increased but for the fear of backing down prices. It is one of the most astonishing things out there, in spite of the enormous augmentation of the supply consequent upon the South African discoveries, the value of diamonds is higher than it ever was. Whether it can be maintained at the same level remains to be seen. I rather doubt the possibility.

## MR. WHEELER.

There were, I think, fewer wheelmen on the road between Christmas Day and New Year's Day than I ever remember to have seen. No doubt, the persistent fog was largely answerable for this. It requires the philosophy of a Mark Tapley to find anything enjoyable in cycling through London. There is some excitement, it is true, as one goes out for a spin, but the excitement is of a moment. But, apart from that, the sport is about as cheerful as going on a pleasure trip during dirty weather in a 10-ton cart.

The Stanley Show has secured a good list of entries, and, judging from present appearances, it should be an even more brilliant success than last year's. I learn, too, that the London makers—an ever-increasing fraternity of bicycle makers—fast both for safety and triplexes. The good old ordinary safety and tandem appear to have largely gone out of favour, very few orders being received for either. From a picturesque point of view this is to be regretted; variety of machines lends enchantment to the view on the Ripley and North roads. Nor is there any better machine for a coxy, comfortable, really pleasant ride than a light, well-appointed tandem. Provided, of course, that your partner does his share both of the work and the talk; a tandem shirk is purely an encouragement.

During the forthcoming cycling experiments at Aldershot it would be well to ascertain whether a safety or a triplex is the better adapted for military purposes. My own opinion inclines, on balance, towards the latter, but Colonel Savile, whose practical experience is unrivalled, takes the opposite view. The main advantage of the triplex is that the rider could show round in his saddle, take a side aim and fire, without dismounting. A tandem would be still better off in that respect, as the front driver could keep on pedalling away, while the hind one peppered the enemy every few seconds. The chief objection to triplexes and tandems is that they cannot be so easily hidden when their riders are being employed as infantry, that they are somewhat slower, and that they present a larger mark.

Might I venture to hint, without treading on the toes of any particular club, that everything approaching rowdiness should be strictly tabooed at athletic festivities? Horseplay may be amusing to those who indulge in it, but to spectators it has too much of a New Outlook. Surely young men and maidens can enjoy themselves without giving way to excesses of animal spirits. There are some clubs—many—where nothing of the sort is ever seen, but when once the rowdy element gets the upper hand, breaches of decorum are inevitable.

The central club-house scheme is launched at last, and as the affair is in capable hands, the result will show whether metropolitan cyclists really require such an institution. I am disposed to be doubtful on that point; the great majority seem perfectly content with things as they are. Still, there may be a sufficient minority to supply the requisite number of members. It will depend upon the situation of the club house and the sort of accommodation it provides. If the site is good, the cuisine reasonably good, the tariff moderate, and the rooms of a fair size and well ventilated, the club should draw in a good many members who only cycle occasionally.

Gratitude is not dead in the world, after all. Some years ago, a young fellow came an awful cropper off an ordinary close to our house. I happened to be going out just at the time, so I picked him up and carried him indoors, sending a boy to bring in the machine. He had an ugly gash across one temple, and was otherwise much battered, but after an hour or two, my places were made him a presentable and sensible creature by the help of some warm water, a sponge, a bottle of smelling salts, and a whisky "peg" to restore his shattered nerves. Finding himself comfortable, he remained on supper, and, being an intelligent young fellow, we had quite a pleasant evening. From that time to this he has never let a Christmas pass without sending us some little souvenir, addressed on the inside to "Mr. and Mrs. Good Samaritan!" His present offering has just come to hand in the shape of a bottle of eau-de-Cologne and a box of prime cigars. So "Cast your bread on the waters and it shall return after many days" has come true in this case.

Now for a contrast. A friend of mine showed another kindred to a wheelman who had come to condign grief near his residence, and even took the trouble to see him and his broken machine home in a cab. From that day to this the ungrateful dog has never even returned a syllable of thanks, either in person or through the post. How shall we explain this striking difference? Very easily; some are born gentlemen, others are born cads, and cycling cannot change their original natures.

Two domestic servants were lately discussing the relative loveliness of different military uniforms. The brick dust of the Line was scouted almost as quickly as the Volunteer or rifle greens. Next, the Foot Guards were eliminated from the competition, while, although the beauty of the Household Brigade in full fig was admitted, strong objection was taken to their centurion's cuirasses. At that point settled upon the Hussars' costume as the prettiest thing out, but her friend declared that, in her opinion, it was not a patch on "the lovely blue uniforms of the soldiers on bicycles, who go riding about just like bits out of heaven."

## GIFT OF £100,000 TO THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

At the request of Sir William Savory, the senior surgeon, and of Mr. Cross, the secretary of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, a letter is published which has been addressed to the former of them by a donor whose name is not disclosed, and who has asked them to join with him as trustees of the administration of a gift of £100,000, which he has given for the establishment of a convalescent home in connection with some of the London hospitals. "Founder," the anonymous donor calls himself, is of opinion that an outlay of from £300,000 to £400,000 would be necessary in order fully to meet the requirements of metropolitan convalescents; and he seems to have entertained the hope of inducing other wealthy persons to unite with him for the purpose of supplying the need completely from the very beginning. In this he was disappointed, and he has therefore fallen back upon his own resources, evidently with some expectation that his work will be extended by others when time has sufficiently displayed its utility. In conferring very wide powers upon the trustees, he nevertheless lays down for their guidance the cardinal principle that the expenses of the new institution are to be kept within its income, and that no debts are to be incurred for the purpose of adding force to any machinery of appeals. Whatever can be done with the money in hand is to be accomplished in the best possible manner; and the trustees, if the work before them should come to be in excess of their resources, will be compelled to discuss the means of augmenting those resources before the sphere of their activity can be enlarged. They are to have complete discretion as to the apportionment of the beds in the new hospital or home; but the "Founder" suggests that it will be better to divide them between, say, two London hospitals.

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.—Influenza and Pains in the Limbs are speedily and agreeably cured by BANCALAT'S Balm. It is sold by all Chemists and Druggists. Price 1s. 6d., or free by post from Barclay and Sons (Limited), 25, Farringdon Road, London, for 10 stamps. BANCALAT'S name on Government stamp is guarantee of authenticity.—Adm.



## CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From *Monmouth*.)  
It is clear that the future of pugilism will be something in this way. The rival "gangs" of the rival heroes will fight the battle out, side against side, all to themselves, while the rival champions, from their ability to take care of themselves, attend as judges or as seconds.

There was a dearth of evergreens this Christmas. Holly was plentiful enough. But owing to the absence of holly it did not get hung as in our private opinion it ought to have been long ago.

"I don't like your swag," as the gilder said to Don Pedro.

SEVERE: A CONFESSION'S SPOON.—Benevolent Old Lady (to whining mendicant): Now, just tell the young woman behind the counter what you'll have to eat, and I'll pay for it.—Mendicant (briskly): Give us a pound of those "see macarons," miss.

Dealer: There is "my lord." You never saw such a high as I did not? I taught him myself. I thought so. He looks as if he had learnt on a treadmill.

A BOAT TOWN.—(Some: A Crowded Railway Carriage).—Small Boy (reading *Monmouth*): Ma, what does "G.O.M." mean?—His Mother: Don't you know, dear? It means the Grand Old Man.—Small Boy (timidly, after a short pause): Oh! that's Satan, isn't it?

STUDIES IN REPARTEE (A lady and gentleman seated in a conservatory).—She: How silent you are. What are you thinking of?—He: Nothing.—She: Egotist.

FRANK TO THE COUNTRY.—Young Lady: Can you tell me where the meet is?—Butcher's Boy (recent importation from London): Yes, mum. I just took it up to the 'all this mornin'!

THE SERVANTS.—Lady Patroness (Registry Office of Charitable Society): And why are you leaving your present place?—Small Applicant: Please ma, the lady said she can do with a less experienced servant.

PREPARING TO MEET AN EPIDEMIC.—If you sit all day in your great coat, muffled up to the eyes in a woollen comforter and with your feet in constantly replenished mustard and hot water, as you propose, you will certainly be prepared, when it makes its appearance, to encounter the attack of the Russian epidemic influenza, that you so much dread.

Your idea of taking a dose of some advertised patent medicine every other hour, as a preventive, is by no means a bad one, and your resolution to shut yourself up in your house, see no friends, open no letters, read no newspapers, and live entirely on tinned meats for three months, might possibly secure you from the chances of an attack; but on the whole we should rather advise you to carry out your plan in the country, or better still, to seek a temporary asylum in South Central Africa until you are assured that the contagion has blown over, as the preferable one.

Anyhow you might try it. Meanwhile, certainly drench your clothes with disinfectants, all your hat with cotton wool steeped in spirits of camphor, and if you meet any friends in the street, prevent them addressing you, by keeping them at arm's length with your walking-stick, or better still, if you have it with you, your opened umbrella. They may or they may not understand your motive, and when they do, though they may not respect you for your conduct, it is just possible that they may not seriously resent it. Your precautionary measures, if scrupulously carried out, should certainly ensure your safety. Put them in hand at once, and be sure you let us hear from you next spring, informing us, on the whole, how you have got on.

(From *Judy*.)  
Too Acquainted.—Friedewick (one of the great unloved): How do do, Miss Wuth? It's wretchedly cold, isn't it? This weather's enough to freeze to death—a monkey.—Ruth: Yes. I wonder you're alive.

Was he Personal.—Hostess: Won't you two come into the drawing-room? Signor Bellow is singing "The Tempest."—Captain Boyle: No, thanks; we would rather wait until the squall is over.

SAM WELLBLES.—"This is the best sort of stick to use at night," as the old man said when he took his candlestick to go to bed. "You are the weaker vessel," as the mild ale barrel remarked to the whisky bottle. "But I possess the most spirit," was the reply. "Oh, hang it!" as the artist exclaimed when he sent a painting in to the Academy. "I am quite wrapped up in you," as the traveller said when his mistress and gentleman have come to a deadlock, "as the auctioneer observed when he was going to put up a false curl. "I'll lay my lash on your shoulder," as the pretty girl whispered when she hid her blushing face on his manly breast. "This is my stockin' trade," as the hostler explained when he introduced a friend to his establishment.

If she had kept her place, I should have kept mine," as the servant said when his mistress taught him in the wine cellar and discharged him.

THINGS JUDY'S LIKES TO KNOW.—Whether a lay-man would not be more likely than a clergyman to succeed as a vendor of eggs? Whether the pig is not the most stylish of all animals? Whether the most suitable religion for a gardener would not be Buddhism? Whether the prisoners in her Majesty's gaols ought not to be fed upon a diet of collery? Whether the life of a millionaire is not generally a chequered career? Whether a life-size portrait of a lady or gentleman could not be appropriately described as a photograph? Whether the higher culture of women is the same thing as hag-rigiculture? Whether it is not a mixture of metaphors to speak of a parson as a shepherd of souls? Whether plum-pudding would not be the best diet for a glazier?

It's a very ill wind and to spare that blows nobody good! What a splendid time some dear good husbands are having of it! The stand up fight between the latchkey and the keyhole is now perfectly exposable. "Couldn't she see the way to the keyhole. No goosh, my dear—no goosh!"

(From *Fun*.)  
MAIDEN CONFIDENCES ARE SO SWEET!—Mabel: And, do you know, dear, I feel sure he would have proposed, if mamma had not been present. Maud: I'm sure he would, just going to do.—Mabel: Proposed to me?—Maud: Yes, dear, to let him take you down to supper.

BROCKING-UP.—Host: What shall we say in the way of hook now? There's the Neinstreiter, Hattenheimer, Bodenthal, Hocheimer, Raueenthal, et cetera?—Guest (from rural parts): Oh—er—I s'pose we have a little of the cutworm.

NOT THE WORST BEASTS SEE COULD HAVE FOUND.—Frisella (whose umbrella—a tiresome thing—is recalcitrant): How that sailor looking man over the way is watching us as if he never saw two girls struggling with the wind before!—Sybil: Oh, if he's a seafaring person it is not surprising that we are drawing his attention towards us.—Frisella (alarmed): Good gracious! On what account?—Sybil: Are we not a pair of wind-lasms?

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY.—Mrs. Dullbon (at the rural district): I see there's an interval of a month between the next two acts.—Miss Dullbon: Oh, mamma! And we are going back to Sloughborough next week. We shall not see the end of the play.

"Man knead me," as the dough said to the oven.  
"I'm for lawn," as the bishop-elect remarked.

(From *Funny Folks*.)  
HAPPY NEW YEAR-NINGS.—John Bull: Now, then, Father Christmas, clear out! Take away those baubles, and don't come again till next December. We want to see what Master Eighteen Ninety is like. Here he comes.

"U' WANT THE PRICE OF COALS."—A material rise in the price of coals is reported, and a coal famine is quite within the limits of possibility. Should such a contingency arise, the British public may be trusted to remain true to its old traditions, for it will certainly find no difficulty in keeping cool.

How is this for HY-NET?—Commenting on some recently-published statistics with regard to

matrimony, an evening contemporary points out that "last year was the first in recent times in which, while the price of wheat fell, the marriage rate remained stationary." In our opinion, the only conclusion to be drawn from this remarkable circumstance is that with an ever-increasing proportion of the adult male population of these islands wedlock is against the grain.

THE SINGERS OF WAR.—Strong man Samson's salary has been stated in a court of law to be £150 a week. That, of course, settles the question as to whether he is or is not the strongest man on earth—one who's able to draw such a heavy salary as that must be.

THE MORNING AFTER.—Stern Employer (to clerk who has come in late on the 27th): Well, sir?—Clerk: No, sir, not quite.

DURING THE LOW PRESSURE DAYS.—Enter Brown. See Jones struggling to read by the light of the gas. "Hallo, old boy! I see you are better off for gas than we are. Ours is so bad that we can't even see to turn it out."

More Free than Welcome.—Escaped burglars paying you a midnight visit.

Ring the Changes.—A pantomime "froct." Ring the Changes.—Kinging the old year out and the new year in.

Apophorism for Use on December 31st, 1889.—"Year to-day and gone to-morrow."

Diametrically Opposed to One Another.—Old longings and new year-nings.

Breaks of "Fancy"—Infant priggles.

Pantomime Men.—A Beautiful Dream: The transmutation scene.

Crystal Palace Pigeon Show Note.—Unjustifiable Howl: Killing moor.

Mam, by Our Maddest Hatter.—Darkness that can be felt: A black billycock.

Parnell Commission Jotting.—Certain to Make a Noise in the World: The judges' report.

People who Probably Enjoy Recreation.—Self-made men.

Christmas Padding Prescription.—"The mixture as before."

Theatrical Note.—"Star Traps": The leading actors' luggage.

(From *Ally Sloper*.)  
"Did he love that poor girl much before she died?" and the sweet, sympathetic maid checked the tears which would otherwise have turned the violet powder into Lilliputian apple dumplings. "Love her? Why, when he was courting her, he squeezed her so hard that he drove three of her ribs into her lungs, and utterly ruined her liver by the violent pressure. Poor thing! there is something in this patent unbreakable stay movement, after all."

"A wretchedly, dear boy," murmured McGooseley, indignantly, "it can't possibly hold McGooseley, but if you pour a little on my coat, I'll be able to suck it in the morning."

He was woeing a buxom widow, as wily as buxom. He had an idea that her lamented had cut up to the tune of some thousands. When he had popped the question and the ring on her finger, he asked, with some hesitation, "What did your late hubby leave you, dearest?" She answered, "Lonely, ducky."

"O'Connell and the Traveller Surrender.—Suspicious-looking Customer: Oh, yes, sir, this is very bad weather for us.—Missionary: Indeed? How is that?—S. L. C.: Why, you see, sir, when it's so blooming cold every body keeps their hands in their pockets, and that makes it orl difficult to—"

Remainder lost in buzz of conversation.

Blow, blow, now win'g wind; Thou art not so unkind As man's ingratitude. Thy tooth is not so keen, Because it makes them seem, That lack it; once forgot.

"My dear fellow," said Grig, who had just returned from his maternal twin in the Serpentine, "I should like to see what you would do if you put me up and put you all in a glow, and—"

"What!" exclaimed McGooseley, shuddering, "have a cold bath? I would as soon think of drinking cold water."

Lord Knows: And did you visit Pompeii during your travels, Mrs. Shoddy?—Mrs. Shoddy: No, my lord, I can't say as how we did, but—

—Miss Shoddy: Yes, we did, ma. Don't you remember where the coup de grace was of garlic, and the man cheated us in the change?

"Can it be true, Mr. Clarke," said Softy, "that you are most avicious, stony-hearted money-lender I have heard you described?" "Well, that depends, my dear boy," said Clarke, "when I discount a bill, or lend a man a fiver, I'm one of the best sort going; but when pay day comes, I'm invariably a most unmitigated scoundrel. Strange, isn't it?"

"Oh! why do you weep, dearest wife? Quick! tell me what it is you require. Though I haven't the wealth of Duke Fife, That which we can't buy we can hire."

"A sealskin 's a bonnet 's a dress? A brougham or an opera box? A dog or a new golden tree?"

"Or horse to go hunting the fox?"

"Oh, no!" and she smoothed her fair brow. "For those are all common and coarse; But this is the fashion just now, and—"

Please, dear, may I have a divorce?"

IMPORTANT TO INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

Those about to emigrate should inquire at 31, Broadway, Westminster, the official Emigrants' Information Office. From that source there has just been issued the quarterly circular, full of valuable, new, and trustworthy details respecting all the colonies. From these we learn that the main points of interest in connection with emigration during the past quarter have been—

1. The improved prospects in New Zealand, South Australia, and to a less extent in New South Wales and Western Australia. 2. The comparative scarcity of mechanics in the inland towns of the Cape Colony. 3. The continued emigration to the Argentine Republic, the Government of which is offering much encouragement to European immigrants. The present season, it is stated, is suitable for going to Australia or South Africa, but emigrants for Canada should not start till the end of March. Those who have friends in Queensland, Western Australia, and Natal should note that those friends can, by applying there, procure for them passages at reduced rates, but this privilege is confined in the case of Queensland to agricultural emigrants and female servants. In addition, the Cape Government gives cheap passages to mechanics and female domestic servants under contract to employers in the Cape Colony; and Queensland gives free and assisted passages to unmarried labourers on the land, and to useful single women. Of course the all-important consideration in regard to emigration is that the right people should go, and on this point it is reported that farmers with capital, and female servants, will find openings in all the colonies, and agricultural labourers in Australia, and the railway navies Natal at present offers the best openings; for miners, Tasmanian, and New Zealand; and for carpenters, masons, and mechanics connected with the building trades, the Cape Colony and Natal; though there is generally an opening, without a special demand, for capable mechanics in all the colonies.

WHAT'S IN A NAME.

At the Dalston Police Court the other day a curious application was made to Mr. Haden Corner. A respectable-looking man said he and his sister were children of their mother's second marriage; but their mother had retained her first husband's name, and applicant and his sister had always been known by it. The sister had married a man who had discovered the true state of affairs, and now repudiated his liability to maintain her because she married him in a name which was not her own.—Mr. Haden Corner. If she was married in the name by which she had always been known, it will make no difference. The guardians will see that the husband supports her.

Mr. John Harris, a well-known burlesque of Chester, dropped dead during the service at Christ Church in that city.

## SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From *The World*.)

It may be assumed that Mr. W. H. Smith will remain the titular leader and the real manager of the House of Commons during the coming session, and possibly during the present Parliament.

Whatever changes may take place in the Cabinet will be of a minor character, and will probably not involve any application to gentlemen sitting on the other side of the House.

I can state confidently that Lord Salisbury is strongly opposed to the idea of arbitration in the case of the difference with Portugal, and the Foreign Office, of course, is very confident that Portugal, after a little diplomatic struggle and protest, will abandon the extravagant pretensions it has put forth.

The Duke of Portland has no Derby favourite this year, but he has a good outsider for the classic stakes in St. Ger. St. Simon out of Feronia, which he bought from Lord Roslyn in the early part of 1889 for 1,000 guineas. St. Ger was very backward when he ran for the Clarendon last October, in which race he was clearly beaten by Right Away and Vermillion; but he has greatly improved, and is growing into a very fine colt, and he is a beautiful gayer.

"Once more I believe that I am able to identify," the oldest clergyman in the Church of England, "in the person of the Rev. John Elliott, vicar of Bangor, near Stroud, 1791, and has therefore lately entered upon his ninety-ninth year. He has held the vicarage of Bangor for over seventy years, the sole clerical charge of his prolonged life.

The circumstantial story about the impending betrothal of the Duke of Augustenburg and Princess Maud of Wales, which was telegraphed last week from Berlin, was palpably untrue, for the prince and princess have actually never met. It is a marriage which would be wholly unacceptable to the royal family, for the duke, who is a young man of excellent character and disposition, is not only a brother of the German Emperor and a nephew of Prince Christian, but his mother is Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, a daughter of Princess Feodora of Leiningen, the daughter of the Duchess of Kent by her first marriage.

A very ridiculous story is going about that the Government intends to visit the House of Commons when it meets, for a vote on account of the Parnell Commission, but that Mr. Walter has refused to accept the proposal. Mr. Walter, of course, would be the last person to expect or accept such a thing, and it is about the last thing the Government would be likely to propose. The story is that the Government intend to visit the House of Commons when it meets, for a vote on account of the Parnell Commission, but that Mr. Walter has refused to accept the proposal.

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## THE GARDEN.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR "THE PEOPLE.")

## Kitchen Garden Notes.

Manure and dig all vacant land, throwing up the surface, and leave it rough for the weather to act upon it. In digging pick out the roots of all perennial weeds, as digging them in will not kill them. Birdweed, or wild convulselva, is a terrible pest in some gardens, and the only way to get rid of it is to pick out every bit as far as possible when cultivating the land, and during summer use the hoe freely, so that the plants have no chance to make any growth above ground. I was in a garden a few days ago where the strawberry and raspberry plantations were full of the roots of this weed, and when things come to this condition the only chance of getting rid of it is to take up the plants, fork out all the roots of the birdweed, and re-plant the strawberries and raspberries elsewhere in clean land.

## Slugs and Snails.

will in mild weather be busy among lettuce and cabbage plants. Sprinklings of soot and lime on damp mornings are useful, but the best preventive is to dust some cinder ashes over the surface of the land among the plants. Slugs and snails cannot travel comfortably over them, and their instinct tells them to go elsewhere for food. I have often heard the remark during frosty weather, "It's a bad time for the slugs and other insect pests," but they don't mind it. They creep into some hole under a clod and lie low till the weather changes, and then out they come again in shoals to look for dinner. During the late frost I called upon an amateur friend, and found him busy in his garden turning over some old pea sticks and a pile of empty pots and other odds and ends which are always accumulating, and he called my attention to the heaps of snails which he had slain. They had taken refuge under the empty pots and sticks literally in heaps. My friend smiled grimly as he brought his heavy foot down upon his enemies. The tidy gardener will permit heaps of rubbish to accumulate upon his premises to shelter his enemies. I was asked once yesterday what was the proper way to cut Brussels sprouts. The market grower generally cuts the stem through at the surface of the soil and takes it away bodily. This is right enough for him, because he sells the stems at a fair price, and clears his land for another crop, but this is not the best plan for the owner of the small garden to adopt, and neither should the top be cut off, as in some cases done. If the plant is to be made of the crop, take a sharp knife and cut off the largest sprout, and leave the small ones to grow larger, and leave a crown of leaves on the plant as a protection to the young sprouts. By-and-by a little cabbage will form at the top, and when the protection of the leaves is no longer required this may be cut and cooked. Very nice tender shoots are produced in spring by the stems of old Brussels sprouts if the land is not required for other crops. Of course, they must not be permitted to remain to run up into blossom, as in this condition they rob the land without making any return.

## Winter Broccoli.

will now be turning, and must have protection from frost, or the white hearts will be spoiled. The best plan to preserve them is to look over the bed before severe frosts set in and dig up all which are showing heads amid the crown of leaves, trim off a few of the bottom leaves, and lay them close together in a rather deep trench, so that the roots reach to the base of the leaves. A dry raised border is the best place for them, and when frost sets in cover them with mats or some dry litter. I generally put a covering of mats over the plants and then place some dry bracken on them. In this way they are quite safe and fresh, and always available for use when wanted.

## Horseradish.

is another thing that is nearly always in demand through the winter, and it saves a deal of labour if a stock sufficient for the winter is taken up and the best pieces laid in somewhere handy. The best of those pieces, which are too small for use should be planted for next year—the pieces about the size of one's little finger, and a foot or so long, if planted with a long dibble. A crowbar is a good tool for the job. Make a good hole, drop the set crown upwards in the hole, and fill up with light sandy compost. If nice straight pieces are required, free from roots, rub off the small roots forming on the side with a piece of coarse flannel.

## Pyramid Pears and Other Fruit Trees.

may yet be planted in open weather. A good deal of discussion takes place from time to time upon the question as to the best stock for grafting pears upon. There are certain kinds of pears that will not grow upon the quince. Marie Louise, for instance, one of the best, if not the very best, autumn pear, will not thrive upon the stock named, and, in fact, I do not suppose a tree could be purchased upon it. Out of curiosity I have tried to get this pear upon the quince in several small rootlets, but have not succeeded, all saying this variety will not grow upon it. Where the quince thrives it forms a good stock for certain kinds of pears, for the following, among others:—Beurré d'Amalhis, Doyenné du Comice, Beurré de Esperance, Beurré Bachelier, Durré Del, Beurré Superfin, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Pesse Colmar, Pitmaston Duchess, and Williams' Bon Chrétien, all of which are in the first rank for quality and productiveness. It should be borne in mind that pears on the quince will not thrive in a poor, dry soil. The quince must have moisture; its roots are near the surface, and when dry weather sets in, a mulch of manure and an occasional soak of water must be given, or the pears drop off or are poor in size and flavour, but a pear on a quince stock well nourished grows to a large size, and is as good as the other. The great advantage of the quince is its early fertility, and as the roots do not strike deeply into the ground the trees never get too large for a small garden. Those who have had no experience with this stock should try it on a small scale at first, and treat it liberally, especially in the way of mulch, and keep the spade from its roots for ever.

## Fern Cases.

It is too soon yet to think of renewing the soil in fern cases, but the dead fronds should be removed and the condition of the soil ascertained. The plants will not require so much water during these short days as will be necessary by-and-by, but the roots must not be permitted to get dry. A medium state is best. It may be necessary, or at least desirable, to give robust growing plants, such as cinerarias, cyclamens, and other plants in flower, a little weak stimulant to encourage them. This is not the season for strong doses of anything, but weak soot-water, or a pinch of rum, or any other artificial manure dissolved in water will do such plants good.

## Camellias in Rooms.

must have their roots kept in an even condition as regards moisture. If permitted to get very dry the buds will fall, and neither should the soil be made in a sodden state from over-watering. If gas is burned in the house the plants should be moved into a spare room at night when the gas is lighted.

## Winter Flowering Heaths.

such as Erica hyemalis, that are now past their best, should have all the dead flowers picked off, and be kept in a cool room, free from frost of course, but not heated artificially above thirty-five degrees. By-and-by, before the new growth begins, the long shoots should be shortened back to keep the plants symmetrical.

## Laying Down Turf.

Alterations involving the laying down of turf should be no longer delayed. The roots of the grasses are in an active condition now, and ground intended for lawn tennis or cricket this season should be seen to at once.

## MADAME ALBANI'S ANECDOTES OF THE QUEEN.

Madame Albani writes in the *New York World* "a few notes" about her Majesty the Queen with whom, she adds, "I have had the honour for a long time past of being personally acquainted. The communication is not very informing, but we extract from it all that appears to be new.

The Queen's thoughtfulness.

The Queen is very faithful to her old friends and very thoughtful for everybody with whom she comes into contact, remembering the smallest details about them, their families, and their occupations, and giving evidence of this at most unexpected moments. A circumstance which happened to me proves very strongly the truth of this. Four years ago I was singing at the Royal Opera at Berlin, and was not even aware that the Queen knew of my engagement there. I, soon after my debut, was at a large dinner party at the English embassy, and sitting next me was one of the gentlemen of the Crown Prince's household. During dinner he put into my hand a telegram telling me to read it. This was from the



## THE THEATRES.

## COVENT GARDEN.

Mezrs. Augustus Harris and Freeman Thomas have accomplished wonders at Covent Garden, both in the way of getting together an admirable company of equestrian and variety artists, and in arranging the large auditorium in a manner calculated to furnish the maximum amount of comfort to their patrons. It is a bright and altogether excellent entertainment, full of contrast, novelty, and spectacular interest. The equestrian lion is naturally served up as the bone bouche of the programme, for it was this particular animal that caused quite a sensation in Paris during the holding of the Exhibition. It is a novelty at all events to see the monarch of the forest capering in the circus ring and jumping on and off the back of a horse as it gallops round the arena. The lion is accompanied by a remarkably intelligent and wondrous boarder, and as by way of precaution, the feats are performed within a huge circular cage, any fear of risk or danger is at once dispelled. For the training of the lion to such a pitch of docility and shrewdness, Herr Hagenbeck and Herr Philadelphia are deserving of much praise. Being Christmas time the management wisely decided on the production of a pantomime, and as "Cinderella" is the story which lends itself most readily to effective treatment in the ring, that subject was decided upon. Nothing has been spared that was wanted to give a realistic presentation of a series of elaborate tableaux, all the incidents of the familiar story being worked out with artistic delicacy and skill, the dresses and properties used being marked by elegance and tasteful combinations of colour, and the 200 juveniles employed in the representation having been admirably trained by Madame Katti Launer. There is the most liberal display of horses and various kinds of equestrian stunts, and only does Cinderella drive in a gorgeous vehicle drawn by four beautiful ponies, but all kinds of things on wheels, including a hansom cab and an omnibus, with Lord Salisbury and Mr. Gladstone on the box, bring guests to the prince's hall. The ball scene itself is as bright as gas jets and gorgeous costumes and show appointments can make it, and taken altogether, the pantomime may be classed as one of those entertainments which cannot fail to delight and amuse the young folks, and the old ones, too, for the matter of that. The remainder of the programme is made up of a capital assortment of equestrian and variety talent, with a liberal admixture of genial fun. Some of the trained horses are magnificent specimens of their kind; the Sisters Hoffman have good cause to describe themselves as the champion lady horizontal bar performers; the newly married Mr. and Mrs. Pasha, the Morocco jumper, do marvellous things in the way of acrobatic feats; Mr. Silvester, as the Newmarket jockey, deserves excited enthusiasm of the audience; and Miss Jessica proves herself a most skilful and daring performer on the slack wire. There are also performing bears and many other features, some of them essentially novel and all of them entertaining. As a whole the Covent Garden programme is one that should retain its popularity for a considerable time to come.

## ROYAL THEATRE, STRATFORD.

Mr. J. O. Harris has written a very clever version of "Jack and the Beanstalk," in which he has introduced references to local topics and events, which have a telling and amusing effect on the audience. The overture and incidental music of Mr. F. Merry is also good. Mrs. Merry and Mrs. Fredericks have arranged two pretty ballets, in which Miss K. Fredericks figures capably as principal dancer. The scenery is all that could be desired, and the interpretation of the story is highly creditable to the twenty individuals who take part in it. The proprietor, Mr. A. Fredericks, is to be commended on his Yuletide production.

## LONDON PAVILION.

The advent of the festive season found the directors of this popular resort prepared with a lengthy programme of attractive amusements. The most sensational item of the programme is undoubtedly by Signor Rappoli. In defiance of the ordinary laws of gravitation this performer acquires himself of a number of startling feats upon the top of a ladder twenty-five feet in height. It is a clever performance. The Brothers Horne and Miss Lydia Tyndale present a delightful sketch, in which a set-to with the gloves between a swell and a bootblack forms the principal incident; Madame Stedeker, as the Beauty and the Beast, through some graceful evolutions on the trapeze, Herr Wallenda introduces his highly-trained troupe of boardwalkers, whose feats are as interesting as they are extraordinary; a pretty and graceful Andalusian dance is contributed by Misses Fioretto, Wilton, and Hornby; in addition to which a number of popular entertainers contribute to the programme. Among these may be mentioned Miss Boswell, as the Beauty and the Beast, who is as sprightly as ever; Mr. G. H. Macdonald, Mr. Charles Coburn, and Mr. G. W. Hunter, whose contributions are too familiar to need further description; Lieutenant Walter Cole, with his well-known ventriloquist act; Madame Rizzelli, Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss J. Valmore, Messrs. Revene and Athas, Stewart and Francis, the Athos Troupe, and the Larsen Troupe.

## THE MOHAWK MINSTRELS.

The new year's programme of the Mohawk Minstrels is fully up to the usual mark of excellence. A number of new sentimental songs are introduced and cleverly interpreted by the company, as are also some fresh parodies on popular old ballads. The "strong man" craze is amusingly burlesqued by Messrs. Deavers and Scherfeld, whose method of moving eighty-one tons of iron is a mirth-provoking one. The new pantomime sketch, "Mister Robinson Crusoe," is alone worth a visit to witness, and the variety items are all of a high class.

In respect of stage productions there is no more nor do players, indeed, look for any in the week following Christmas, when every manager has just shot his best bolt in the competition for public favour among holiday-makers of all classes. Excepting the items here first set forth, what there is to record about theatres generally, at home and abroad, results from accident rather than design. The sole aim of impudently running to the effect of the London Christmas pantomime at Her Majesty's Theatre, the enterprising new management intend to produce at Easter a grand spectacular military drama, having for its subject the re-conquest of France by Joan of Arc; and even as the whisper is uttered comes the news from Paris that, while Madame Sara Bernhardt, at the Porte St. Martin Theatre, on Monday last, was rehearsing the final scene of this very character, and mounted on the funeral pyre, one of the bags of gas supplying the flames by some untoward chance burst and exploded, and though without any injury save nervous shock to the great actress, yet to the sore hurt of a poor stage carpenter stationed under the bag. The "effect," so ghastly in its realism, is not new, it having been first used, in this identical scene of the sacrifice of the Maid of Orleans at the stake in Rouen market-place by Madame Bernhardt's great predecessor, Rachel, who found an imitator in England a few years later in Mrs. Rousby, when that sometime favourite actress enacted Joan of Arc at the old Queen's Theatre in Long Acre, while under the management of Mr. Labouchere. But fire is not the only danger to be dreaded in playhouses as revealed by the extraordinary and mysterious collapse of the theatre just completed at Stratford-on-Avon, which, within a few hours of its official inspection prior to the inaugural performance, collapsed under stress of a storm of wind and rain. True, the edifice was of timber only, but the comparative lightness and slightness of woodwork is no excuse for its perilous use in a public building necessarily so large and so shell-like as a theatre. It is expected that the municipal authorities of Stratford will cause a searching inquiry to be made as to the parties who rest the responsibility for the

collapse, whether it be the architect or the builder, or both. A somewhat similar "accident" is just reported from Mexico, where, during a bull fight at Villaherda, a portion of the amphitheatre gave way, causing a hundred persons to be injured more or less seriously. Daru, the French dramatist, has just succumbed to the after effects upon the lungs of the insidious epidemic of influenza, or dengue fever. The deceased author wrote "Gurcut," the original of "Paul Jones," and, in collaboration with M. Chivot, he also produced "The Tambour Major," "La Mascotte," "The Great Mogul," and other operatic pieces, which were popular in English versions. The present Gaiety company, headed by Mr. Fred Leslie and Miss Nellie Farren, will return for a season to New York at the close of 1890. Under the management of Mr. Harrington Bayly, the Novelty, re-named the New Queen's, is shortly to be opened again with farce, domestic drama, and burlesque. During the long holiday of Christmas months which Mr. Edward Terry is about to give himself, his theatre will be occupied by the most eligible of the several talents now after it. Among these are Mr. Calmoun, with a new play in the fanciful vein of "The Amber Heart," and a financial backer, of course; and Mr. J. K. Jerome, with a fresh farcical comedy for Mr. Paul, who with his moneyed supporter would become temporary lessee of the theatre until the time of its owner's return to produce and re-appear in Mr. Arthur Law's new play, "Culprits." Mr. Frank Marshall, husband of Miss Ada Cavendish, who has just passed away, is best remembered as a dramatist by his pretty comedy, "False Shame," played with success at the Globe, while under the management of the late H. J. Montague. It is known that Mr. Irving has since accepted an original play by Mr. Marshall, one of the many unacted pieces the Lyceum manager has obtained from well-known playwrights for production in the dim and distant future. Clarkson, the old-established theatrical purveyor, has made to order for the leading London theatres, to be worn at the current Christmas productions, no fewer than 3,000 wigs.

## MADAME PATTI'S HAIR.

An American newspaper is responsible for the following statement:—In a letter to a friend in Chicago, Madame Patti encloses a photograph, showing the new style of coiffure she has adopted, and makes some allusions to her new bright red hair. "It isn't blonde," she writes, "nor even golden brown, but red—bright red of the most gorgeous shade. You know, I dare say, that I am in mourning for my sister. Black was never becoming to me. I look positively wicked in a black wrap, and with a whole toilet and my black eyes and hair I was a most dismal creature to look upon. I not only lost the sympathy of my friends, but was also a depressing effect upon my own feelings, but was also unpleasant to my friends, and for their sake, as well as my own, I had my dark locks brightened."

## A FATAL MISTAKE.

A sad case of poisoning is reported from Wales. On New Year's Eve a young man in the employ of Mr. W. S. Powell, J.P., went to visit Mr. Hussey, head bailiff at Old Park Farm, near Llanwrthwl, Swansea. Mr. Hussey had for a jar of beer, but unfortunately the servant brought a jar containing liquid for sheep-dipping. The visitor on taking a drink said it had a queer taste. Hussey thereupon took a draught. He at once discovered the mistake and sent for a doctor, but his treatment was of no avail, and both men died the following morning.

## DEATH OF ONE OF DICKENS'S CHARACTERS.

Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, coroner for East London, held an inquest at St. George's-in-the-East Vestry Hall, respecting the death of George Ah Sing, a Chinaman, lately residing at 131, Cornwall-street, St. George's East. Ah Sing at one time kept an opium den in New-court, Victoria-street, E., which used to be visited by the Chinese steaming coming to this country and others who indulged in the use of the drug. This place was visited by Charles Dickens, and it is stated that Ah Sing forms one of the characters in "The Mystery of Dr. Deodred."—Hannah Ah Sing, the widow of the deceased, has been ill for the last twelve months, and on December 29th was taken very ill. At three a.m. she spat up a lot of blood, and died before a doctor could be procured. Deceased had been unable to follow any occupation for some time, and witness had supported him as well as she could. She earned sometimes 2s. 6s., and 6s. per week at charring and washing, and out of it she paid for rent and for the support of her children. She did not apply to the guardians for relief. She applied once to the Charity Organisation Society, but they refused to help her.—Dr. Theuresen, 273, Cable-street, stated that death was due to the rupture of a blood-vessel in the lungs, following exhaustion consequent on privation.—The coroner remarked that this was only one of a number of cases he had before him, where persons had died from the want of sufficient food. At half the population of London died from such a cause. This old couple would have been far better off in the workhouse; but to this the respectable poor appeared to have a great antipathy, and outdoor relief seemed to be refused them.—The jury concurred in these remarks, and returned a verdict that death was due to the rupture of a blood-vessel accelerated by destitution.

## THE BUILDER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

At the Wandsworth Police Court, Edward Palmer, a builder, appeared to answer a summons at the instance of Mr. W. H. Whitfield, on behalf of the Wimbledon Local Board, for that, in the erection of a dwelling-house in Effra-road, South Wimbledon, he neglected to cause the whole ground surface to be properly asphalted or covered with good cement concrete, rammed and set, at least six inches thick, also that he neglected to cause the east flank wall of such house to be constructed of bricks not less than eight and a half inches in length, and to be properly bonded and solidly put together with good mortar.—Mr. Whitfield said that he had been freely used in the construction of the house, which was situated near the houses visited by Mr. Birton, who remarked that they could easily be seen running from the top of the roof to the ground. An inspector in the employ of the board, gave evidence as to the quality of the mortar used and the absence of asphalt or cement on the surface of the building. He served defendant with a notice requiring him to remedy the defects, and the work carried out subsequently was a little better in his character, yet it was not by any means satisfactory. The wall had been potted with inferior stuff.—A portion of the mortar was produced, and the magistrate, crumbling it with his fingers, said it would make excellent garden mould.—Mr. Crimp, surveyor to the board, looked at the mortar produced, and said it was rubbish, not mortar at all.—The Magistrate: How much would the defendant save in using that kind of mortar?—Witness: About 47 a house. For the defendant, Mr. Farman called Mr. Henry Vulliamy, surveyor, Chislehurst, who said he had inspected the building in the course of its construction. He was perfectly satisfied with the mortar used and the formation of the wall. His duty was to see that the building was erected solidly, and not whether the bye-laws were complied with.—The magistrate said he hoped that the bye-law would be always rigidly enforced. If the board showed any mercy, it was invariably misconstrued. He fined the defendant 45s., with a guinea costs in respect to the wall, and 40s., together with a guinea costs, for the other matter.

At a meeting of the Holborn Board of Guardians a letter was read from the medical officer of the union schools at Mitcham reporting an outbreak of scarlet fever in the schools, and requesting the guardians to stop any visiting on the part of the children's friends for the present. This was adopted.

## TERRIBLE CALAMITY AT FOREST GATE.

## Twenty-six Children Suffocated.

Early on Wednesday morning a terrible disaster occurred at the Industrial School at Forest Gate. After all the inmates and officials had retired for the night, a fire broke out in one of the boys' dormitories, and though the fire itself was not a particularly serious one, twenty-six of the boys sleeping in the dormitory were asphyxiated by the smoke before the existence of the fire was discovered. Miss Bloomfield and Miss Terry, who are attached to the managing staff of the girls' department of the school, first became aware of the fire. They raised an alarm, and the superintendent of the institution hurried to the spot. With presence of mind he got out the fire extinguishing apparatus, which was kept in readiness on the premises. This consisted mainly of what is technically known as a "Fire Extinguisher," and the superintendent, who was kept in readiness on the premises, was able to get to the spot in time to attempt to extinguish the fire. He was assisted by the boys, who were all very brave and courageous. The fire was extinguished, but the boys were already unconscious. The superintendent, who was kept in readiness on the premises, was able to get to the spot in time to attempt to extinguish the fire. He was assisted by the boys, who were all very brave and courageous. The fire was extinguished, but the boys were already unconscious. The superintendent, who was kept in readiness on the premises, was able to get to the spot in time to attempt to extinguish the fire. He was assisted by the boys, who were all very brave and courageous. The fire was extinguished, but the boys were already unconscious. The superintendent, who was kept in readiness on the premises, was able to get to the spot in time to attempt to extinguish the fire. He was assisted by the boys, who were all very brave and courageous. The fire was extinguished, but the boys were already unconscious. 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### A NOVEL ABDUCTION CASE.

married with the abduction of Macneil's daughter, who was then under the age of 16, at Shipley. "The girl, a labourer, stated that she was a prisoner of her father, who had married his daughter, but he told him to marry young. Two days after the marriage, and he found she was living in a parish church and heard they were married, and he intended to forbid the wedding if they did not come. That morning he went to his daughter, who told him she was comfortable and happy in her new home, and that she certainly would not "bide" any more. The girl declared that O'Brien, the prisoner, was with her, and she had sanctioned the girl going with Barber, but her father stoutly denied. "In reply to the statement she he would have no objection to her marrying now if the prisoner would marry her comfortable. Prisoner said they were married soon." The Chairman: What do you say? Prisoner: Well, as soon as I have my money, you know; but I had my money back in the harvest and that stopped me. The Superintendent Denman said that the statement as to the robbery, which the prisoner had made, was correct. The magistrates decided to adjourn the case until the next day, to see what course the prisoner would take.

On Saturday there were serious floods in parts of Ireland.

On Saturday Emma Cline, 60, a tailor's

... Grace-street, Bromley, was admitted  
 ... London Hospital, with a broken leg and  
 ... was detained.

**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS**  
 WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
 SMALL SIZE, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE  
 WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
 Regulate the Liver and Bowels.  
 WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
 Promote Digestion.  
 WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
 Homoeopathic and Safe.  
 WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
 Alcoholic in Action.  
 WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
 Purely Vegetable.  
 WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS  
 Sugar Coated.

**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 You Can't Help Liking Them,  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 They Give You  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 And their Action so Perfect,  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 One After Eating  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 Relieves Drippage,  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 Give Tone and Vigour to the System.  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 Make Life Feel Worthy Living.  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 Everybody Likes Them,  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 No more  
**WARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILL**  
 The Standard Product of the Leading  
 States. Established 1884.  
 SUGAR COATED.

**HOMOEOPATHIC IN SIZE.**  
**ALLOPATHIC IN ACTION.**  
**SMALL SIZE, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE.**  
 Only Vegetable, and do not gripe or purge, but by its  
 action pleases all who use them.  
 SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS, 1s. 1/6d.

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**"SWEET RELIEF"**  
**"SWEET RELIEF."**

"SWEET RELIEF."  
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**Y** IOLENT COUGH EXHAUSTED  
**Y** IOLENT COUGH EXHAUSTED  
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**Y** IOLENT COUGH EXHAUSTED  
**Y** IOLENT COUGH EXHAUSTED  
**Y** IOLENT COUGH EXHAUSTED

<sup>94</sup> Commercial-road, Pechin, J. J.

"Dear Sir,—I am a poor hand at expressing feelings on paper, but I thought as to-day your longings have done wonders for me, your terrible cough. Since I had the "tuberculosis" (the same as the late Germany, and, unlike him, thank God, alive and getting on well) performed

The throat-irritations, the inflamed condition of the vocal chords, no one could possibly more violent cough; indeed, it was so bad that it quite exhausted me." The manner in which Dr. Hill's capsules have been used here has been to get rid of it without any harm, yours truly."

"Mr. A. Keating."

MEDICAL NOTE.

The above speaks for itself. From strict observation it appears that the benefit derived from Dr. Hill's Lung-Losenges is understated. The operation especially severe one, and was performed by Dr. H. B. Baker, of the Boston City Hospital. Since the operation the only relief is the use of these Lung-Losenges. So sure they that one might imagine the benefits derived from the nature of the case the throat irritate. Mr. Hill kindly allows any reference made to him.

EATING'S COUGH, LOZENGES,  
COUGHS, ASTHMA, BR  
EATING'S COUGH, LOZENGES,  
COUGHS, ASTHMA, BR  
EATING'S COUGH, LOZENGES,  
COUGHS, ASTHMA, BR

**K**EATING'S COUGH LOZENGES  
COUGHS, ASTHMA, BR  
**K**EATING'S COUGH LOZENGES  
COUGHS, ASTHMA, BR  
"ANY DOCTOR WILL TELL YOU  
no better Cough Medicine than K  
LOZENGES. One gives relief. If you  
cough, try them but once; they will ease  
will not injure your health; they contain  
purest drugs skillfully combined.  
Sold everywhere in 1944. Time.

**MORPHY'S WALNUT PO**

**TRIUMPH**

AS A

**HAIR DARKENER**

GOLDEN, LIGHT BROWN,  
BROWN, AND BLACK

1 oz. and 2. 64 per Pot. Simple to apply and no  
AN EMINENT LONDON PHYSICIAN AS  
"I have no hesitation in recommending  
Walton's Pomade as a very effective Hair Dye  
is a perfectly harmless preparation. The  
employed in the treatment of the scalp, is conducive  
natural growth of the hair."

"GILBERT LYTHE, M.A., M.D."

**ROBERT'S ORIENTAL DEPILATORY**

The Safest, Best, and Most Successful

**HAIR DESTROYER**

Removes easily and effectually Hair disfigurements

Hands, and Cheeks.  
Guaranteed harmless. 1s. per Packet.  
**MORPHY'S WALNUT POMADE AND DEODORANT**  
May be had of all respectable Chemists, Perfumers,  
Dressers, and Stores, or free by parcels post by  
postal order to the maker,  
**JUGENE MORPHY, 70, South Andler-street, L.**

100







It was seen that the little ones had been suffocated by the smoke, and their end was, happily, unaccompanied by the awful agony of a death struggle in the embrace of the flames. The little faces were peaceful and painless—unscathed even, for the most part, by the hot breath of the devouring element. The children lay just as they had fallen asleep, tired out with their afternoon at the pantomime, to dream of its glories and of the new toys and good things promised for the New Year's Day which was not to dawn for them, sleeping the sleep of childhood prolonged into eternity. Of the remaining children who were saved from the burning dormitories, none seem to have been seriously hurt, and it is pleasing to learn that many of the lads were true in the hour of terrible panic to the instincts of coolness and pluck inherent in British boys, and that they displayed a fearless and unselfish devotion in rescuing their companions which would have done credit to grown men. A special word of commendation is, likewise, due to the admirable conduct of the superintendent, Mr. DUNCAN, whose heroic efforts to save the little lives committed to his care will not, we trust, be allowed to pass without the recognition they deserve.

What was the cause of the catastrophe? Until an investigation (which must be of the most thoroughly searching character) has been held, it is impossible to speak positively on that point. If, however, the published accounts of the matter may be accepted as substantially correct, the origin of the fire is to be traced to a pipe which ran from a stove in the wardrobe-room, above which the doomed dormitories were situated. That pipe is described (whether correctly or not we do not know) as running through a wooden partition dividing the wardrobe-room from the store-room. And it was in the slit between the two portions of that partition that the matron, Miss BLOOMFIELD, who first raised the alarm, perceived sparks burning, while smoke and flame issued through the joint of the pipe. It is stated, however, that this piping in no part touches the wooden partition, but is cut off from all connection with the woodwork by two iron rings. Of course, all statements on this matter will be carefully examined and verified. But, speaking with all reserve, we may fairly say that at the first hearing this arrangement seems incompatible with the requirements of safety. To carry a stove-pipe through, or in close proximity to, any woodwork is a proceeding which it is impossible to justify. The dictates of common sense and common prudence indicate as much, while the history of an enormous number of cases of fire, especially in old country houses where modern structural alterations have been adapted to existing conditions, points to the same conclusion. The statement that the piping does not actually touch the woodwork cannot be accepted as a good defence, and we shall, therefore, hope that the authorities will be able to prove that the fire was not due to such a highly dangerous structural arrangement, but to one of those unavoidable accidents which baffle architectural skill and the vigilance of those who are responsible for the safety of life and property. We are bound to add that the care exercised to prevent such a disaster does not seem to have been adequate. The school has accommodation for 720 children, and a very large number of these must have been within the building on the fatal night. Nevertheless, we gather from the reports that the number of grown-up people on the premises was exceedingly small. Moreover, which is worse still, there does not seem to have been any night porter or watchman to patrol the buildings and to be on the alert for an alarm of fire. Such a person should be engaged as a matter of course at every large institution of this kind. Had there been a watchman on duty at the Forest Gate Industrial School on New Year's Eve it is more than possible that not a single life would have been sacrificed.

### THE STATE AND STRIKES.

The possibility of London being thrown into darkness by a general strike of gas-workers has set many minds thinking as to whether the State would not be justified in interfering with a high hand. Of course, in ordinary quarrels between capital and labour the sole duty of the State is to see that both get fair play. It has no more concern to champion the interests of capital than to uphold those of labour. But it would not be difficult to imagine a case in which State interference would be necessitated by circumstances. Suppose, for instance, that London stood in danger of having its water supply or its food supply stopped by widespread strikes; clearly the State would be bound to take instant action to remove the embargo. It appears, therefore, that there are some instances in which the executive would be not only justified, but compelled, to side with capital. Would a general gas strike come into that category? We should like to have the opinion of the law officers of the Crown on that point. Several cogent reasons might be adduced in support of the proposition. The law frowns upon combinations designed to prevent people from pursuing their lawful callings, and the total cessation of our gas supply would undoubtedly do that in numberless instances; it appears arguable that the strikers would render themselves liable to prosecution. At the same time, strikes in themselves are perfectly lawful; Englishmen have a right to give or withhold their labour, subject to the provisions of existing agreements. And that being the case, it might be logically contended that the situation is precisely the same as regards the law, whether the hands of a single concern or of many throw up work. Matters being in this puzzling state, the Government would do well to seek guidance from Sir RICHARD WILSON and Sir EDWARD CLARKE. It is pretty certain that

next year will witness industrial disputes on an unprecedented scale. At present the employed are much more efficiently organised than the employers, and it is a knowledge of that fact which encourages the Trade Union leaders to adopt such aggressive tactics. But it is probable that the masters will shortly seek to strengthen their fighting forces. They could do so without much difficulty by organising Employers' Unions in every leading industry, and by federating these unions so that the whole forces of capital could be directed from a single centre. This is already done in Victoria, Australia, and it is claimed that the most auspicious results have attended both to capital and labour. We can readily believe it; there would be far fewer industrial complications in this country but for the temptation constantly presented to the Trade Union leaders by the lack of unity among employers. So far, therefore, from deprecating the proposal to create Employers' Unions, we heartily welcome the project by reason of its being calculated to put an end to those barbarous methods of adjusting trade quarrels which threaten to work unmeasured mischief to the whole nation.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach has just issued a fair challenge to Mr. Parnell and the Nationalist members of Parliament. The Irish chief, as every one remembers, has lately told the world what are the benefits which the Irish people expect to get from Home Rule. These are such practical and material advantages as light railways, arterial drainage, improved harbours, development of fisheries, and so forth. But how, asks Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in the existence of these desires and expectations to be reconciled with the conduct of the Irish members and the rest of the Opposition during the last Parliamentary Session? Did not the Government introduce several measures on these very lines? And did not these measures incur the uncompromising hostility of Mr. Parnell and his party? Here, then, is a chance for Mr. Parnell to prove the sincerity of his statements as to the real wants of Ireland. Let him openly declare that he will support the forthcoming Irish legislation of the Government in the direction of improving the material condition of the country. Will Mr. Parnell accept the challenge? We doubt it. But by his acceptance or refusal must be estimated the value of his claims to be considered a true friend to his fellow-countrymen.

An excellent New Year's gift, indeed, is that offered to the London public by the anonymous donor who has given £100,000 for the establishment of a convalescent home for patients discharged from the London hospitals. To such a gift as this no possible exception can be taken on any ground whatever. A great convalescent home of this kind is sorely needed. The in-patient of a London hospital often leaves the institution which has saved his life in a condition of weakness which completely unfits him to return to the surroundings of poverty and hardship amidst which he has to fight the hard battle of life. Very often the work of cure is not really completed without a period of convalescence, in which the patient, undisturbed by anxiety or the necessity of hard work, enjoys pure air and good food. To few, alas! of our hospital patients is that blessed time of rest possible, and the result is, too frequently, a relapse into ill-health from which there may be no recovery. All honour, therefore, to the generous giver, whoever he may be, who has come forward to show those who rail against "capital" the great and good deeds which only a capitalist can do.

### KILLED ON THE LINE.

While a porter, named Hole, employed at the Great Western Station at Reading, was walking along the line on Thursday, he discovered portions of a human body. He called the assistance of a constable, and the remains were taken to the mortuary, where they were identified as those of a man named Pulow. It is supposed that deceased, while endeavouring to cross the line, was knocked down by a train.

### CHARGE OF DRUGGING AND ASSAULTING A WOMAN.

Dr. Herman Tribe, an old-established medical practitioner of Chatham, was on Thursday charged on a warrant, before the Chatham stipendiary magistrate, with drugging and afterwards committing a criminal assault on Rose Jarvis, a married woman. The prisoner was remanded, and bail was refused.

### TERRIBLE DEATH.

A young woman, named Mary Fox, daughter of a publican, of Tallaght, Dublin, was killed on the Blessington steam train on Thursday. The young woman attempted to leave the car at the wrong end, and her clothes were caught by the works of the engine, and she was dragged on to the track and pulled a distance of thirty yards. Her body, when extricated, was found to be terribly mangled. The deceased was returning home from a dancing party.

### A GIRL BURIED ALIVE.

About a month ago diphtheria appeared at the house of a prominent family in Madison, Wis. A young domestic was terribly frightened, and desired to go to her home, but this the physician would not permit. A young child having died of the disease, the girl took to her bed, and, as the illness deepened, she was found to be buried by the authorities. A few weeks after her parents obtained permission to remove the body to the country. Upon opening the casket they were horrified to discover the body lying on its face, with the hair wrenched from the head and the flesh literally torn from the face and hands. The girl had been buried alive!

### A RECENT ARRIVAL AT THE ZOO.

The ordinary notion of a deer is probably of an animal of considerable bulk, but this group of mammals, like many others, includes representatives of most varied sizes. One of the very smallest members of the group—a little creature not much more than a foot in length—is at present to be seen in the Menagerie House (which, by the way, shelters almost fewer "manipules" than anything else). It is known as Stanley's chevreton, and was named by Dr. Gray after Lord Derby (grandfather of the present earl), who owned a magnificent menagerie. Apart from its cloven hoofs, the animal looks less like a deer than a small rodent or even a marmoset; it never possesses horns, and the male has a pair of very long curved canine teeth in the upper jaw, which may perhaps be used for fighting. A much more remarkable developed tooth; it has been said that the deer when too hotly pursued springs into a tree and remains suspended by its teeth until the pursuers have passed by. This is, however, one of those statements which hardly seem to need refutation.

A man who was charged at the Thames Police Court, on Saturday, with assault, when arrested gave the name of "Jack the Ripper." He was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment.

### ALLEGED WHOLESALE ROBBERIES IN LONDON.

At the Marlborough Police Court, George Harvey, 25, a butcher, of Aston-street, Kingsland-road, and Henry Butcher, 27, a waiter, of Brougham-road, Dalston, were charged with being concerned together in stealing on the 11th of December from 12, Eaton-road, Hampstead, a diamond brooch and a watch, valued at £20, the property of Walter Sykes; also with stealing from a Savernake-road, a pair of marine glasses and a scarf ring, worth 30s., belonging to William H. Massey; and from 19, Lyndhurst-road, a plated bracelet, worth 7s. 6d., belonging to Joseph Latham. According to a statement by Detective-inspector Bannister, the prisoners are men who are believed to have been committing robberies all over London, gaining admittance to gentlemen's houses under the pretext of having come to inspect the drains or the water-pipes. Police-constable 493 S. said he was on duty at Albany-street Police Station at half-past four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, when, in consequence of information received from a lady living at Cumberland-terrace, Regent's Park, he went there, and arrived in time to see the prisoner Harvey leaving the area of No. 15. He at once made for the prisoner, who, seeing witness approaching, walked across the carriage drive, and jumped a wall into the terrace gardens. Witness jumped after him, and a severe struggle ensued. Ultimately a park-keeper came up, and the prisoner was conveyed to the police station. Inspector Hall, J. Division, said he was riding along the outer circle of Regent's Park about twenty minutes after four, and saw the prisoner Butcher waiting about with a pony and cart. He watched him for a time, and then went to the police station. Seeing Harvey there in custody, he returned to the park with Detective-sergeant White, and they then questioned Butcher, who said that he was waiting for his master. His answers were far from satisfactory, and he did not seem to know his way out of the park. He was taken to the police station, and his name was Ashton. Subsequently Butcher said the truth would have to come out, so he might as well say at once that the other man married his sister. He (Butcher) had never had a stain on his character, and had always got on honest living until lately. He had saved up a few pounds, and determined to go into business. He bought a horse and cart, and then he saw Harvey, but he did not know the small that he did not do any good. The other man then said: "Well, I know of a better game than this, and then they started the game of thieving, and he was sorry enough that he had done so. Afterwards he saw Harvey, who gave him his name and address, and said he was living with a 'tart' (a woman), and he wrote a note to her asking her to give the police certain things he had given her. He said that he was innocent of the crime, and that the man from Barbican would be at the court, and witness asked him if he meant the tradesman to whom he had sold some jewellery, and where he afterwards left some property on the counter and run away, and Harvey answered in the affirmative. In reply to the magistrate, Inspector Bannister said people from all parts of London had identified the men, and already there were twenty-one cases against Harvey. While the people were identifying the prisoner, Harvey winked to Butcher, and said, "Don't tell them who my old woman is." Harvey had called at Cumberland-terrace to look at the drains, and the lady sent word to the police for weeks past, and the commissioner of police had warned the public through the newspapers against these men. Notice had also been sent to nearly every house of any importance in the S. Division, and the lady in Cumberland-terrace was the first and only person who had helped the police in the matter. When a constable went to one house to warn them the door was shut in his face, and he was told they had nothing to give away. Mr. De Ruten said he found the public as a rule did not give the police much assistance. On the application of the police the prisoners were remanded, as there were many cases to be inquired into.

### The Detective's Statement.

Detective-inspector Bannister, S. Division, said he saw Turner at the station, and in answer to witness's questions, Butcher said he was employed by the other man to look after the horse and cart, while he (the other man) went away for a time. He said he did not know the man who did for a living. His name was Ashton. Subsequently Butcher said the truth would have to come out, so he might as well say at once that the other man married his sister. He (Butcher) had never had a stain on his character, and had always got on honest living until lately. He had saved up a few pounds, and determined to go into business. He bought a horse and cart, and then he saw Harvey, but he did not know the small that he did not do any good. The other man then said: "Well, I know of a better game than this, and then they started the game of thieving, and he was sorry enough that he had done so. Afterwards he saw Harvey, who gave him his name and address, and said he was living with a 'tart' (a woman), and he wrote a note to her asking her to give the police certain things he had given her. He said that he was innocent of the crime, and that the man from Barbican would be at the court, and witness asked him if he meant the tradesman to whom he had sold some jewellery, and where he afterwards left some property on the counter and run away, and Harvey answered in the affirmative. In reply to the magistrate, Inspector Bannister said people from all parts of London had identified the men, and already there were twenty-one cases against Harvey. While the people were identifying the prisoner, Harvey winked to Butcher, and said, "Don't tell them who my old woman is." Harvey had called at Cumberland-terrace to look at the drains, and the lady sent word to the police for weeks past, and the commissioner of police had warned the public through the newspapers against these men. Notice had also been sent to nearly every house of any importance in the S. Division, and the lady in Cumberland-terrace was the first and only person who had helped the police in the matter. When a constable went to one house to warn them the door was shut in his face, and he was told they had nothing to give away. Mr. De Ruten said he found the public as a rule did not give the police much assistance. On the application of the police the prisoners were remanded, as there were many cases to be inquired into.

### CHRISTMAS AT THE LONDON HOSPITAL.

Among those who were present in the Victoria Ward of the London Hospital, Whitechapel-road, to witness the distribution of Christmas toys to the children suffering in this great charitable institution and to assist in their entertainment for a brief hour, were Princess Ghika, Lady Guise, Mr. Murray (chairman of the hospital), Mr. J. H. Buxton (treasurer), Dr. and Mrs. Fenwick, Dr. Gilbert Smith, Dr. Sansom, Dr. Stephen Mackenzie, Mr. A. F. Charrington, Mr. T. F. Cobb, Mr. F. M. Martineau, Mr. Baggesse, Mr. E. V. Sidney, Mr. Vatcher, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Arthur Wess, and many others. Children from the other wards participated in the entertainment, and even those who were so feeble that they had to sit up in their cots enjoyed the spectacle of decorations and Christmas trees and the fun of Punch and Judy shows. Mr. Leopold Rothschild gave £10 towards the entertainment, and the Princess Ghika and other ladies and gentlemen also contributed. It was estimated that upwards of 10,000 patients were treated in this hospital last year, or more than 2,000 per week. The ordinary annual expenditure amounts to at least £53,000, while the assured income is only £17,500, the deficit having to be made up by voluntary contributions. The very poorest show their appreciation of it by themselves contributing over £2,000 a year by means of the "People's Fund."

### A SINGULAR FATALITY.

At Warsaw a singular fatality occurred a few days ago. A young Jewess from Kiel was visiting her friends in the Polish capital, who gave a ball in honour of their handsome young kinswoman. The latter purchased for the occasion a pair of long Danish gloves. Whilst dancing the young lady felt a severe pain in her left wrist, which became suddenly inflamed and swollen. It appeared that whilst making her toilette she had slightly pricked her wrist with a pin. A medical examination showed that the young lady was suffering from carbuncle and blood-poisoning contracted from the glove, which the doctors declare to have been made from the skin of an animal suffering from carbuncle or anthrax. Notwithstanding the various means adopted by the doctors to save their unfortunate patient, she died within forty-eight hours in great agony. The fatal gloves were purchased in a fashionable Warsaw shop.

### IMITATING MRS. MAYBRICK.

Another crime, almost exactly identical with the Maybrick case, has been perpetrated at Boston, on the 3d. A merchant of that town lately married the daughter of a wealthy landowner for the sake of her dowry. The young woman, finding that her husband was more in love with her money than her person, transferred her affection to a young man in her husband's employ. Shortly after this the merchant fell ill. The young wife sent for the physicians, but all their efforts to save the life of the unfortunate merchant were in vain. His wife suddenly held a pocket mirror, and it was decided to hold a post mortem. It was then discovered that the sympathetic young wife had systematically and deliberately poisoned her unfortunate husband, with the intention of marrying his employe after his decease.

### "MOPPY" OR "JEM?"

Amusing Case. At the Marlborough-street Police Court, Dr. Joseph Edmunds, of Grafton-street, Bond-street, appeared on an adjourned summons charging him with detaining a pug dog belonging to Miss Peters, of Grafton-street, Fitzroy-square. Mr. Bathurst Norman, solicitor, appeared for the complainant. At the last hearing of the case Miss Peters said that in November, 1888, she bought the dog in question in Ladbroke Market, and christened it "Moppy." She scratched the name and address of the dog on its collar. On the 17th of July, 1889, she lost the dog, and gave information about the matter to the police at the Tottenham Court-road Police Station. Subsequently, in November, Mrs. Payne, a friend of hers who knew "Moppy" well, sent a message to her that she had found the dog. She immediately went to Mrs. Payne's residence and saw the dog, which immediately recognised her. On taking it home she discovered that instead of having her address on its collar, there was written on it the name of Mrs. Edmunds, Grafton-street, Bond-street. On December 6th she took the collar to Mrs. Edmunds, and informed her that she had found it on the dog. She had lost some months previously. Mrs. Edmunds asserted that the dog on which she had put the collar was one which she had bought at Whiteley's, and asked her to bring it to her the next morning, in order that they might both go to Whiteley's and make inquiries. When she called as arranged, a detective was in waiting, and he immediately took possession of the animal. Her "Moppy" well, sent a message to her that she had found the dog. She immediately went to Mrs. Payne's residence and saw the dog, which immediately recognised her. On taking it home she discovered that instead of having her address on its collar, there was written on it the name of Mrs. Edmunds, Grafton-street, Bond-street. 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**ESTABLISHED FORTY YEARS.**  
**Please mention "People."**



## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

There were 1,527 marriages in Dundee in 1889.

During the early part of the week a good deal of snow fell in different parts of the country.

During a football match at Weston-super-Mare, between St. Peter's School and Weston Club, Lieut. Lyman, of Aldershot, who was playing for the first-named team, received a severe concussion of the brain from an accidental kick.

John Williams, zamakeeper to Sir Richard Bulkeley, two brothers named Owen, and a fourth man, whose name is not known, have been drowned through the capsizing of a boat off Beaumaris.

The trial of the German Socialists has concluded at Elberfeld. Of the ninety-nine persons accused, forty-six were acquitted, and the remainder were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

Mr. Webster, an auctioneer, was conducting a sale at a public-house at Blackheath, Staffordshire, the other night, when he found concealed in the drawer of a washstand he was offering for sale the sum of £248. The effects belonged to a man named Bowater.

An omnibus belonging to the London Road Car Company, proceeding from the Oxford Arms to Hamersmith the other morning, overturned through the snapping of an axle. The outside passengers were thrown upon the pavement, and those inside were cut with broken glass. Several of the injured were taken to the hospital, but only two, who had sustained broken limbs, were detained.

A serious accident has happened at the Porte St. Martin Theatre, at a rehearsal of "Jeanne d'Arc," in which Madame Sarah Bernhardt was taking part. In the scene representing the taking of the heretic to the stake, a man carelessly set alight the inflammable matter on fire at once. He was rather seriously burned, but is doing well at the hospital. Madame Bernhardt had a fright, but was not injured.

Seven men were charged at Wolverhampton with poaching and assaulting three of Lord Wrottesley's keepers, with intent to murder them, one being nearly killed. One of the prisoners handed in a written confession that four of the prisoners were present at the affray, and that on their return they stated that they had had a row with Wrottesley's keepers, who would want some plasters.

Robert Monk was, at the Wandsworth Police Court, charged, at the instance of the Postmaster-general, with stealing two letters from pillar-boxes at Clapham. Mr. Osborne, who prosecuted for the Post Office, said that there had been complaints for some time of letters being lost from pillar-boxes in the district. Apparatus for taking letters from the boxes was found on the prisoner, who was committed for trial, bail being refused.

At an inquest held on Hermann Rohl, who was reported to have shot himself on the Metropolitan Railway on Christmas eve, evidence was given that on the deceased leaning out of the carriage window, his head came in contact with the door of a guard's brake of a passing train, which a ticket-collector had opened on the wrong side of the train, and the jury, in returning a verdict of accidental death, censured the ticket-collector for his breach of the company's regulations.

An inquest was held at Birmingham on the body of William Evans, a jockey, who died on the 26th ult. under mysterious circumstances. An altercation took place between him and the landlady of a public-house at Balsall Heath. The latter, John Weston, it was alleged, struck Evans twice with a stick as he was leaving the house, and also hit him a heavy blow in the face, with the result that he died shortly afterwards. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Weston.

A serious case has been investigated by the Tenarth magistrates. Thirteen men belonging to the sailing vessel *Grandes*, of Lark, Nova Scotia, left Penarth on December 29th, and proceeded to Tenarth Roads. They then refused to go to sea, and delayed the ship for a week, causing a loss of about £50 a day. Several of the men made charges against the captain and officers of tyrannical conduct. Eleven were sent to gaol for six weeks, and the two ringleaders for two months.

At an inquest held on the man who threw himself from the Clifton Suspension Bridge, the body was identified as that of Mr. George H. Davis, a gentleman of independent means, who lived at U.K. 6, Sunner. He married two years ago, and his wife has since learned that he had been in an asylum. On November 22nd he left home without any explanation, and from time to time sent letters to his wife without addresses. A verdict of suicide during temporary insanity was returned.

James Haveley was charged, at Dalton Police Court, with breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Mr. Farquharson, at Stoke Newington. The evidence showed that the house having been left for a short time unoccupied Mrs. Farquharson turned unexpectedly, when three men, of whom a prisoner was one, rushed out, and he was apprehended. Property worth £50 was found packed ready for removal, and in the prisoner's possession was a skeleton key. He was committed for trial.

Mr. Oswell Livingstone, the last surviving son of Mr. Livingstone, is dead. He had been settled some time in St. Albans as a practicing physician. Consumption caused his death. He was aged after Mr. Oswell, one of his father's shunting friends is the old days at Kolobene, with whom it will be remembered, the great explorer made his memorial journey to Lake Nyanza. The only surviving children of Livingstone now are Mrs. Bruce, of Edinburgh, and Mrs. Wilson, of Kendal.

An inquest has been held at Aldershot on the body of Surgeon Alexander James Struthers, of the Army Medical Staff. He was in the Army about nine years, and was 31 years of age. He had been in the habit of taking morphine for years for a dislocated shoulder, and had so habituated his constitution to the drug as to be able to use thirty shillings' worth in a week. The evidence tended to show that he took an overdose by misadventure, and a verdict accordingly was returned.

Watson Berriman, aged 84, and Rachael, his wife, aged 79, have been found dead in their bedroom, at Kilham, near Driffield, under shocking circumstances. They had gone to bed on the previous afternoon, and the neighbour, detecting a smell of fire, broke into the house, and discovered the woman dead on the bed, burned all over, and her husband lying dead on the floor. The man was very little burned. Both had died of suffocation. The bed-clothes were reduced to ashes. Deceased had formerly occupied a respectable position as a farmer of his own land.

A shocking fatality has been investigated by the deputy-coroner for East Kent (Mr. H. Fielding). Mr. Farrier, a resident at Sandwich had been missing from his home for some days, and his absence causing uneasiness, inquiries were instituted. He was found to have been at the village of Woodnesborough, and on a search being instituted over the neighbouring marshes, his frozen body was discovered in a dyke. Deceased, who was 63 years old, had evidently lost his way in the darkness and been suffocated by falling into the mud and water.

A shocking accident is reported from Havana. A local fire brigade were giving an exhibition in aid of charity, and had erected a rough structure of considerable size, which was to be ignited to represent a burning house. The timbers were in full blaze, and the firemen with ladders and hose, were in the midst of their performance, when the water supply suddenly failed, and many of the men found themselves defenceless among the flaming woodwork. Some were badly burned, and fell from elevated positions, to which they had climbed with their new useless hose pipes.

all twenty-two were injured, and three have since died.

The gallantry and death of Hugo Greve, at the age of 18, are worthy to be placed on record. The boy rescued four companions who had fallen through some ice at Hamburg, but was himself drowned.

It seems that wherever the European goes he must carry with him the fatal vice of drink. It is not pleasant to be told that the state of Zanzibar town after dark is dangerous, owing to the number of drinking shops, and that the great offenders against the peace are drunken Europeans.

A few days ago a gentleman bought a collie dog from a butcher in Chirnside, and sent it by train to a friend in Leith. The dog arrived safely, but the first day it was taken out it bolted, and next day turned up at its old home in Chirnside, having travelled about fifty miles.

A scheme is in preparation for increasing the water supply of Paris. At present the total supply for both domestic and municipal uses is but twenty-two gallons per head per day, and it is proposed to increase it to fifty-five. The new supply is to be obtained by impounding the head waters of the Seine and Vennet.

It is stated that Mr. Abbey guarantees seventy-five concerts to Otto Hegner, and pays him £50 for each appearance. £5,000 for a single tour is not bad for a boy of 12. It should stimulate the production of prodigies—and spoil the market. "Well if it does," ironically remarks the *Times*.

The usual watch night services were held on New Year's Eve at many of the churches and chapels of the metropolis. Perhaps the most remarkable among them was that at St. Albans, Holborn, where the midnight congregation was composed mainly of the toughest element among the population resident in that district.

Charles Frederick Featherstone, a butcher, doing a large business in the poorer part of the city, was at the Worcester City Police Court sentenced to two months' hard labour for exposing for sale meat unfit for human food. Medical men who had examined the flesh said they had never seen meat so emaciated.

Mr. Morton C. Fisher, a well-known American engineer, resident in London, was found dead in his bed, at his chambers, the other morning. He was heard breathing laboriously at eleven a.m., and on his door being forced at one o'clock, he was found to be dead. Mr. Fisher constructed, among other works, the North Metropolitan railway system.

Sir E. Watkin, presiding at a meeting of the Channel Tunnel Company, disclaimed any jealousy towards the scheme for a bridge over the Channel. He read a letter from Lord Wolsley, expressing the opinion that there would be infinitely less objection to a bridge over than to a tunnel under the Channel, and said he should be glad to hear the grounds for that opinion.

The Clothworkers' Company scholarship of £150, and five years' free training at the City Guilds and Central Technical Institute, awarded for proficiency in English, elementary mathematics, drawing, physics (including chemistry and mechanics), has been taken by Philip Sageman, aged 14 years.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* tells this story:—An Englishman who came to this country thirty years ago, leaving a wife at home to whom he soon after ceased writing, was amazed one Sunday at his boarding-house in Cohoes, N.Y., by coming face to face with her. They eyed each other for a moment, and then embraced. She had been a rich girl for years for him, going from town to town all over the country.

Walker Foulger, a young man whose mind is supposed to have been unsettled by a love affair, has shot himself through the head with a revolver. He was found lying in a stable on his father's farm at Thorpe, Essex, with the revolver lying by his side and a rug over his legs. This latter circumstance at first gave rise to suspicions of foul play, but the surgeon states that the wound was evidently self-inflicted.

The new year was celebrated in Glasgow with unusual gusto, of which numerous performances of the pantomimes, of which were entertained throughout the city. Several accidents were reported. James Bell fell from the top of an omnibus and was seriously injured. James Alexander, Jessie McDonald, and Helen McKay were all knocked down by vehicles and hurt.

On charges of housebreaking and of assaulting Detective-sergeant Dicker, a labourer named White, otherwise Jones, was brought before Mr. Baginall, at West. He was committed for trial on the original charge in July last, and that he escaped from the waiting-room of the court-house. He denied that he was ever in the court before, but was unable to call witnesses in his defence.

A strange man suddenly appeared before Mrs. Catharine Boyd while she was alone in her home at New Brunswick, N.J., and proposed for her hand, remarking at the same time that he had heard she was a widow and a good business, and had drawn from her pocket a pocket-revolver. Mrs. Boyd went to "tidy up." She, however, returned with a revolver, with which she so emphasized her refusal of the offer that the suitor was evidently glad to take his departure.

The dead body of a lad named Greaney was found a few nights ago at Drumculig, a short distance from Castleisleid, lying on the roadside with a rope round the neck, there being evidence of strangulation. The deceased was a brother of a witness in the Daly murder trial, now proceeding at Tullamore. It is believed that the deceased, who was about sixteen years of age, has met with foul play. A young man named Connor has been arrested.

This is the story of a public-house tragedy which occurred in Maryland:—Joseph Kaffer, Charles Rose, and Charles Hart went into William Zorn's saloon, in Canton, for drinks. A difficulty arose over the payment, and Zorn, pulling out a razor, sliced off Kaffer's nose, also slashing his cheek and head. Kaffer's companions caught Zorn, but the latter broke away, and, going to a back-room, shot Kaffer, and Hart in the legs. Zorn was released, and succeeded in shooting Rose in the legs and stomach. All three men were seriously wounded.

A curious story is told in a native Indian paper. In Bangalore, no one who is not a landowner is allowed to take out a license for a gun. A Burmese barrister, who applied for a license, found his landless condition an apparently effectual bar to its being granted. His inability of the legal profession to drive coach and six through an Act of Parliament is proverbial, and the barrister did not tamely submit to be thwarted by a mere regulation. He bought a freehold six feet by three in the Burmese cemetery, and is now the proud possessor of both land and license.

The curious custom at Queen's College, Oxford, of presenting a needle and thread to each of the guests at a banquet, is a pious memorial of the founder, Robert Eggesham, on whose name the college is named. A kind of rebus. The allusion is to the story of Henry IV. (whose son, afterwards Henry V., was a somewhat riotous member of the institution), complained to the authorities of the expense and wastefulness of the college, whereon the youthful prince made his next appearance before his Royal father with needles hanging from the eyelids of his doublet, in order to bear testimony to his newly-acquired thrift.

The revenue returns for the three quarters of the financial year ended on Tuesday show an increase of £250,000 in the receipts from customs, £500,000 from stamps, £15,000 from the land tax, £200,000 from the Post Office, £175,000 from the telegraph service, £45,198 from interest on purchase money of Suez Canal shares, &c., and £254,935 from miscellaneous sources, making a total of £1,055,783. Against this, however, has to be set a decrease of £275,000 from Excise, and £230,000 from property and income tax, which makes

together £1,195,000, and reduces the net increase for the nine months to £450,783.

The Duke of Connaught intends to spend a month in Canada next year.

Chief-constable Williamson's widow will receive a grant of £300 from the Royal Bounty Fund.

The words of Moore's "Sweet Vale of Avoca" have been sold to an English company of £1,800.

The Princess of Wales has consented to receive the purses to be presented by ladies at the opening of the Royal Military Exhibition in May.

The late King of Portugal is stated to have had eleven physicians attending him at the time of his death.

The Empress Frederick sent to the Prince of Wales this Christmas a splendid present, consisting of a unique silver liqueur service.

The extensive thread works of Messrs. William Barbour and Sons, Ltd., near Belfast, have been partially destroyed by fire. The damage is estimated at £25,000.

A Birmingham gentleman attempted to cross the line at King's Heath in front of a train proceeding to Birmingham. His temerity cost him his life. He was literally cut in two.

In India a preparation called cinchona febrifuge is manufactured on the Government cinchona plantations, which is a satisfactory substitute for quinine, and costs much less.

So violent was the sale which raged the other day at Trieste, that ropes had to be fastened to the street posts to prevent the people from being blown into the sea.

Prince Bismarck is said to have again received from the Emperor a handsome Christmas gift, accompanied by a most gracious autograph letter of congratulation.

It is probable that Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's new opera, "The Gondoliers," will be brought out in Berlin in a German dress before the end of February.

A medical practitioner named Hirschfeld, who has just died at Graz, at the venerable age of 103 years, ascribed his longevity to the fact of his having been born at sea.

A fire occurred the other morning in a dwelling-house at Harrow, in a town in Michigan, by which a family of eleven persons were burned to death.

The steamship City of Paris has arrived at Queenstown from New York, having accomplished the voyage in 22 days 22 hours 30 min. This is the fastest eastward passage, and boats by seven minutes the best record of the same vessel.

Silas Jones was a coloured barber of Owensboro, Kentucky. In a fit of drunken mania he entered the shop of a white man named Webster, and shot him dead. He was put in the penitentiary for his crime; an irate mob lynched him.

The salaries of the county officials at Presburg (Hungary) were not paid on Tuesday last, owing to the cashiers having absconded. All the ready cash, amounting to 70,000, was found to have been abstracted, but securities deposited to the value of 1,000,000, had not been touched.

An Englishman, calling himself Wyle, was arrested in Berlin the other day on suspicion of having been an accomplice of the man who swindled the Diskonto Gesellschaft in 1887 by personating Mr. Scott, then First Secretary at the British Embassy in Berlin.

The new Academy of Music in course of construction at St. Louis collapsed the other day after having reached as high as the third story. There were fifty workmen employed on the building, and a number of them were crushed beneath the fallen walls.

Within the last few months the sale of Australian wine in London has assumed extraordinary proportions. At many retail merchants' the produce of Bordeaux was only disposed of during Christmas week, after the whole stock of grape juice from the antipodes had been exhausted.

The constitutionality of the New York law, providing for the execution of criminals by electricity, has been affirmed in general terms by the Supreme Court. It is possible that the case may be carried to the Court of Appeals, which is the court of last resort, but it is not probable.

A dreadful disaster has occurred at Villalardo, Mexico, during the progress in the Colosseum of a bull fight. The performance was going on in the arena, and the attention of all present was fixed thereon, when a large part of the building suddenly collapsed. About 100 persons were injured, some of whom have since died, and others will not, it is feared, recover.

The *Malibon Argus* states that a misfortune has befallen Mr. S. S. Colborne, in connection with the management of the magnificent work he has done in that city. He has received scarcely any money for his services since his return from Queensland, and the same remark applies to Madame Christian, Signor Hazon, who so ably conducted at the concert, is, it is stated, unpaid.

At Berrinsborough, Queen's county, a man, named Quinn, was charged with the murder of his aged mother. It was alleged that the murderer, who was a prisoner, brutally maltreated the old woman, broke several of her ribs, and knocked out some of her teeth. The woman died from the effects of the injuries, and Quinn was committed for trial on the capital charge.

A panic has occurred in the cathedral of Temesvar, in Hungary. As the congregation were dispersing after mass they were alarmed by the report of firearms. A young man was discovered lying dead at one of the side altars, holding a revolver in his hand. Extreme poverty had driven him to commit suicide. The cathedral was closed, and will not be opened until it has been re-consecrated.

The Yorkshire coalowners, commencing with the new year, advanced all classes of house coal 10d. or 1s. per ton. Manufacturing fuel was similarly increased in value, small coal and slack being quoted much higher in proportion, owing to the scarcity of that description. The highest prices were imposed to cover the 10 per cent. extra price given to the miners, who are now receiving 30 per cent. more than in November, 1888.

The Prince of Wales gave his Royal and other guests at Sandringham a good day's cover shooting. Amongst those out were Prince George, the Duke of Cambridge, the Hereditary Prince of Hohenlohe-Landenberg, Count Merensdorff, the Duke of Fife, the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Randolph Churchill, and Sir Henry James. The Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince and Louise (Duchess of Fife), Victoria, and Maud, and the lady guests, drove out and lunched with the Royal and distinguished sportsmen.

The scheme for the construction of the City and North London Subway Railway, of which Parliamentary notice was given last month, has, it is understood, been abandoned, and will not therefore be further proceeded with next session. The proposed railway was to have commenced by a junction at London Bridge with the authorised City of London and Southwark Railway, from whence it would have passed, and Moorgate-street, via King William-street, to its termination in the City-road, Islington.

The National Rifle Association have applied to the Board of Trade for a provisional order to empower them to construct a tramway from a junction with the South-Western Railway, near Brookwood Station, to its termination at that portion of P. Bright Common now held by trustees on behalf of the line, except at each end, will, it is proposed, be available for the conveyance of all kinds of traffic. The gauge proposed is the customary 4 ft. 8½ in.

A youth named James Mooney has been committed for trial at the Liverpool Assizes on a charge of causing the death of Patrick Doyle, another youth, on Christmas night. The youths were drinking together, when they quarrelled about a girl, and the prisoner had kept company for ten months till he was transferred from his affections to Doyle. Shortly after leaving the public-house they had a struggle, during which, it is alleged, the prisoner stabbed

Doyle in the neck, causing death before the hospital could be reached.

Mrs. Hancock is one of the victims of the influenza epidemic.

Five persons were killed in the streets of London last week.

There were 1,815 births and 1,690 deaths in London last week.

The Very Rev. William Smyth King, Dean of Leighlin and of St. Patrick's, has died at Carlow, at the advanced age of 80 years.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's intention is to have nothing to do with intonations in connection with the new Church House.

From twelve to fifteen deer a day are killed along the line of the West Virginia Central Railroad.

The photograph is likely to be introduced into the Government colleges in Mexico as an aid to the study of elocution.

There were forty-seven deaths from violence in London last week, four being cases of suicide, and one of murder or manslaughter.

The infant victims of overlaying do not diminish in number from suffocation last week.

Mr. Fletcher, of Rosehaugh, has accepted the invitation of the Essex-shire Constitutional Association to contest the county at the next election.

It is reported that the import duty on British coal at the Crimean ports will shortly be abolished.

Mr. Augustus Harris has signed a contract with the proprietors of Covent Garden Theatre, renouncing that building for ten weeks for Italian opera, to commence in May.

A house in the manerage of Mr. E. H. Bogstock, which is at present stationed in the New Year Fair at Bolton, has given birth to a couple of fine cubs.

Four hundred thousand sacks of flour went to the United Kingdom in the third week of December from the four principal American points of shipment.

Dr. Morton, a Glasgow medical man, was walking along the Broomielaw in company with his wife, when he became ill, and going into a shop near by expired in about five minutes.

The churchwardens at Ashford in Kent were astonished last Sunday. They found bank notes in the offertory bag amounting to £150. All the other offerings only amounted to £25.

Nicholas Pecanni, a New York citizen, tried to shoot his wife. She was only slightly wounded. Believing, however, that he had succeeded in his murderous effort, he blew out his own brains.

Orders have been given for Her Majesty's ship *Assistance* to embark at Portsmouth, on Monday, reinforcing drafts for the regiment serving in Ireland, where the strength of the military forces is now nearly 28,000 men.

There were 28 deaths from measles in London last week, 14 from scarlet fever, 26 from diphtheria, 67 from whooping cough, 3 from typhus, 13 from enteric fever, and 19 from diarrhoea and dysentery.

During the year which has closed, the three Masonic charitable institutions received a total sum of £28,445. The Benevolent Institution got £18,722 odd, the Girls' School £14,956, and the Boys' School £4,767.

A Board of Trade inquiry, held at Liverpool regarding the collision between the Liverpool steamer *Mauretania* and the Italian barque *Siris*, in Penzance Roads, resulted in Chief Officer Watson's certificate being suspended for six months. He had charge of the steamer.

The Commander-in-Chief has issued an order to the effect that in future captains and subalterns of the Royal Artillery shall not be eligible for promotion unless they have passed an examination in range-finding as well as the other subjects laid down.

Mr. P. A. McHugh, editor of the *Sligo Champion* and ex-mayor of Sligo, has been served with eight summonses to appear before a Criminal Court on Monday, to answer charges of having intimidated two men, named James Task and Donagh and Killoran, who have taken refuge in county Sligo, and are accused of "land grabbing."

The condition of Judge Bristowe, who was shot some time ago at the Great Northern Station, Nottingham, improves daily. The wound is now completely healed, and he is able to walk about the accident ward of the General Hospital without pain. No secondary risks are feared, and it is probable that his honour may leave the hospital in a few days.

While the Inman liner City of Paris was proceeding up the Mersey, inward bound from New York, with nearly 500 passengers on board, she came into collision with an out-bound boat, named *Mersey*, owing to a thick fog. The City of Paris had her bowsprit torn away, and the other vessel had a mast smashed. Great commotion existed among the passengers, but no one was injured.

During the past year the Channel Islands have supplied Londoners with enormous quantities of fruit and vegetables, and Covent Garden Market is still drawing from these welcome sources tomatoes, pecked in open baskets, and grapes of fine quality. One firm alone in 1889 received from Guernsey and Jersey nearly 70,000 baskets of produce, weighing about 300 tons.

Cardinal Manning, replying to a letter from a Catholic Workmen's Club in Vienna, congratulating him upon the results of his intervention in the recent dock strike, says:—"Nowhere on earth is there such unlimited wealth and such extreme poverty to be found as in England, but yet the workmen are gifted with prudence and patience, and are inclined to hear the voice of moderation and counsel."

An arrangement has been negotiated by Mr. O'Connor, her Majesty's agent and consul-general at Sofia, by which British goods will henceforth be admitted into Bulgaria upon payment of Customs duties at the rate of 8 per cent. ad valorem. Alcohol, gunpowder, salt, and tobacco are not included in this arrangement, but these goods of British origin will receive the most favoured nation treatment.

Sir M. Hicks-Beach, addressing a large meeting at Leamington, said the very things which Mr. Parnell had demanded for Ireland in his recent speech were what the Government had proposed; and if they had not been passed it was because of the languid support they received from the Parnell majority in the House of Commons. Sir Michael maintained, could not do for Ireland what could be accomplished by the Imperial Parliament.

The Duke of Wellington on Wednesday opened an exhibition of relics of the battle of Waterloo in the hall adjoining the panorama lately built in Ashley-place, Victoria-street. In declaring the exhibition open he said that, naturally, to him it was a matter of the greatest possible interest that the memory of the victory should be kept alive among the people of England. He was sure that when the exhibition was complete it would be worthy of the subject sought to be commemorated.

Here is a terrible drink story from Newark, New Jersey:—On the ladies to wear black dresses, white gloves, black or white shoes, feathers, and fans, pearls, diamonds, or plain gold or silver ornaments. The gentlemen to wear black Court dress, with black swords and buckles. On the 16th inst. the Court will change mourning as follows:—"The ladies to wear black dresses, with coloured ribbons, flowers, feathers, and ornaments, or grey or white dresses, with black ribbons, flowers, feathers, and ornaments. The gentlemen to continue the same mourning."

The Court will go out of mourning on Thursday, the 23rd inst.

It is reported from Nice that Miss Mary Anderson has expressed her intention of not returning to the stage—at least, not for an indefinite period.

This year and in future the new German Army List will appear on the Emperor's birthday, the 27th instant, and will include all the changes of the past year.

Owing to the number of smuggling escapades which take place between Deal and Sandwich, where the coast is very lonely and open to the Downs, a new coastguard station is to be established there.

A disastrous explosion of gas occurred on Wednesday evening at the residence of Mr. Jones, Elton-street, Briton, Ferry. The interior of the house and its contents were greatly damaged, and several children were badly injured.

Admiral Sir B. J. Sullivan, K.C.B., died at Bournemouth late on Wednesday night, aged 50. The deceased had been an inhabitant of Bournemouth for many years, and was for some time president of the Blue Ribbon Temperance Union there.

It is understood that the scheme, of which notice was given last November, for the construction of a new bridge across the River Thames, between Cubitt Town, Poplar, and Park-row, Greenwich, has been abandoned, and will not be further proceeded with next session.

The Rev. Chancellor Vigoules, Protestant clergyman, while returning home from Kilkenny on Wednesday night, was waylaid by three or four roughs, who overpowered him and stole his gold watch and purse. No arrests have been made.

During the performance of "Hamlet" at the Theatre Francaise, smoke arose from the footlights. The iron curtain was immediately lowered, when the smoke was found to have been caused by the overheating of the electric wires. The audience remained calm, and after five minutes the performance was resumed.

A subscription list has just been opened at Chertsey for the purpose of making a testimonial to Mr. Superintendent Bongard, who has retired after 35 years connection with the Surrey Constabulary. The testimonial is being supported by the magistrates and solicitors practicing at Chertsey bench.

Those poor people of Windsor, Holy Trinity, and Claver who were the recipients of the Queen's New Year's gifts numbered 978. The weight of beef allotted them was 3,555lb., upwards of a ton and a half. The coals, which were given in a quantity of from one to three hundredweight, weighed 1,307cwt. (nearly 60 tons), and were delivered at the homes of the ticket-holders.

A prize of £20, the gift of Mrs. Humphry Ward, is offered by the Association for the Education of Women in Oxford, intended to promote independent research, and competitors are advised to select a town to the records of which they have convenient access. The essays must be sent to Mrs. A. H. Johnson, hon. sec., on or before December 31, 1891.

A shocking accident happened on Thursday to a man named William Hurley, employed as a stevedore at a farm, Bromley, Kent. He was feeding a derelict farm, Bromley, Kent. He was feeding a steam chaff-cutting machine, when one of his hands caught in it, and was drawn in and cut off to the arm-pit. He was extricated by Mr. Beck, a steam employer, and taken in an unconscious condition to the Cottage Hospital.

Arthur Bradshaw, 17, barman, was charged on remand, at Thames Police Court, on Thursday, with stealing 5s. 6d., marked money, belonging to his employer, Mr. Robert Henry Donagan, proprietor of the Mason's Arms public-house, Watney-street, St. George's. The offence was proved, and the prisoner was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

Mr. Alfred Hodgkinson, the deputy-coroner for North-east London, held an inquest on Thursday, at the Queen Elizabeth, Graham-road, Dalston, respecting the death of James Bartrop, aged 56, a baker, lately residing at 20, Bentham-road, South Hackney, who fell by accident from a second floor window. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

The funeral of the late Dr. Mackay, the poet, who died last Tuesday week, took place on Thursday afternoon at Kensal Green Cemetery, in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. J. Fitzroy. Among those at the graveside were Messrs. Lewis Morris and Messrs. Watts, and representatives of the Hants Club, the Institute of Journalists, the Gleaner Club, and many others.

Mr. Michael Doyle, manager of the Gaity Theatre, Dublin, died suddenly in that city on Thursday morning. He was at the theatre the previous evening, superintending the production of the pantomime of "Aladdin," and then appeared to be in his usual health. The deceased had been for twenty-seven years in the employment of Mr. Michael Gunn, proprietor of the theatre.

The Manchester county stipendiary on Thursday remanded Joseph Brindley, on the charge of attempting to murder his wife, Mrs. Brindley, who was getting up, when the prisoner attacked her with a knife, and struck her eight or nine blows on the head. A terrible struggle ensued between them, during which he tried to force her over the balustrade, but at last he managed to crawl out of the house, fainting from loss of blood.

At a Criminal Court at Limerick on Thursday, before Mr. J. G. Hodder and Major Rolleston, John McEnery, the registered publisher at Limerick, was sentenced to three months, and a further term of three months, in default of bail, for



## TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER.

By LARRY LYTH.

Now that we have passed the Equinox of 1890 and landed in the coming year of another decade, it behooves us to look ahead, for a busy campaign of sport lies before us on turf, on field, and on river alike. The echoes of the bells that rang out the old year and rang in the new have died away, and with them have perished the vain regrets concerning the good things they did not touch and came off, and the presumed good things they did touch which did not come off. Hope takes the place of regret in the ever-cheerful spirit of the new year, and when the time arrives he will come up smiling once more to contest the battle of odds with his natural foe, the irrepressible bookie. In the course of the coming week we shall be significantly reminded of the future, for the Lincoln entries close on January 7th, and for the next issue of the People they will be ripe for discussion. In the present column, however, I propose to look further ahead than Lincoln, and, following the practice peculiar to sporting writers, register a winter tip for the coming Derby.

With the time on the trees and the white frost in possession of the earth, it seems a far away cry to remember that the Derby is only a few months away. Yet we travel space in these times, and I dare swear those of us who live to see the 11th count of the "Blue Riband" of the turf found that day upon them sooner than they expect, for old Father Time is a rare time traveler. The Derby bids to be a remarkable one in every respect, and is bound to leave its mark in turf story. In the first place, it appears in its new guise, bolstered up after the fashion of the Sandown and Kempton method of creating a big stake for this year it is worth £20,000—that is, £20,000 for the winner, £200 for the winner's nominator, £200 for the second horse, and £200 for the third. In the second place, we are likely to see the most phenomenal set of three-year-olds running since the famous Ormonde and Blair Athol years. In the third place, the fight for Derby laurels bids fair to be a very open one, and not such a one-horse affair as it has been regarded in most recent years; and, in the fourth place, additional interest is imparted to the race from the fact that the two Australian colts, Kirkham and Narellan, will try their luck against the pick of our English equine stock, and for the first time we shall be enabled to make sound, reliable calculations as to the merits of Australian and English first-class thoroughbreds.

Taking the pick of the Derby horses alphabetically, Alloway naturally commands first attention. This great lumbering son of Springfield is not a favourite of mine, and I doubt if his conformation will be suited by the Surrey gradients. His best show last season was in the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, where he finished close up to Riviera and Le Nord. But the Springfield does not, as a rule, improve with age, and I fancy that time will suit this big-legged bay to more of a sprinter than a stayer. Passing from the A's to the B's, a half may be made at the name of Bel Demonio, whose victory over Mier Davis and Hersey—who was, by the way, giving him 11lb., exclusive of sex allowance—at Liverpool and his win at Doncaster, scarcely make him out class enough for a Derby horse. Delaval, a half-brother to Mier Davis, trained by Dick Marsh, has only run once, in which occasion he was unplaced, but he is a colt of the future. Plate, and that form suits little in his favour. Devilish is not a Derby horse, and Far Niente has so far shown himself more remarkable for speed than the stamina which is requisite to take a home-bred winner of a Derby. Fontainebleau is hardly likely to follow in the footsteps of his ancestor, Voltigeur, by landing the late spots victorious, as did the famous son of Voltigeur in 1880; and if a St. Simon colt is to do the trick, I shall look among others of his stock engaged in

Frank Patros has been disposed of in the foreign market, and this brings me to the letter G and Garter, a bay son of Hampton and Isignia, who will, if all goes well with him, carry the white, red cuffs and cap of Mr. Hammond, and there are not wanting those who aver that he will atone for Laureate's disappointment. Although I do not anticipate Hampton's son will be crowned with victory, I may go so far as to say I think he is one of the best outsiders in the race, if a horse at 100 to 6 in January can be called an outsider. But for the subsequent running of Queen Laura, Garter's smart disposal of her in the Bradgate Park Stakes at Doncaster would be still more in his favour. He, however, would win the year well by carrying the top weight to victory in the Knowsley Nursery at Liverpool, and in things considered Garter should run well at Epsom. Golden Gate, the son of Bend Or and Palisade, has figured as one of those backed in a lot against the field for the Derby. He shaped well at Goodwood in the Richmond Stakes, which he won from Carabian and Fortitude. He is a smart colt, but scarcely the horse to win a Derby; and there are others in Porter's stable more worthy of consideration.

Heaume is a charming colt of great symmetry and undeniable breeding, and with this son of Hermit and the slaying Le Nord Baron de Rothschild hold a strong hand for the big race at Epsom. The latter, a son of Tristan, to my mind is more of a Leiger than a Derby horse, yet of the pair I have more preference for Le Nord, as I cannot get over a slight prejudice against the Hermit colt. Heaume, with such exceptions as Porter's Tristan, had a tendency to fall off three and four-year-olds. Heaume was a notable example of this theory. No two-year-old ever had a more brilliant career than that of Hermit and Flower of Darset, yet as a three-year-old he was an utter failure. It is true St. Blaise won the Derby, but he was one of the worst horses ever crowned with Blue Riband laurels. It may be that my prejudice against Heaume is all wrong, and that, like his brother, colt Lord Lyon, he will in his old age, Heaume may prove the best colt that ever sprang from the loins of the veteran Blankney lord of the harem. Still, both Heaume and Le Nord have valuable engagements abroad, as well as nominations for the Two Thousand Guineas and the rich Newmarket Stakes, which may induce one or other of them to decline the Derby. A good other account for the same old level betters up of Epsom. Le Nord, Heaume, and Riviera against the field for the Derby day after day, as a horse trained for the Newmarket Stakes or the Grand Prix de Paris can scarcely do himself justice in the Derby.

Hunciccroft, a son of St. Simon and Lady Gladys, like St. Serf, is the property of the lucky Duke of Portland. We have yet to see him in public, and although rumour speaks of him as a real good colt, I can say nothing in his favour, and should prefer to wait until he has been tried by the hand of his old age. Heaume may prove the best colt that ever sprang from the loins of the veteran Blankney lord of the harem. Still, both Heaume and Le Nord have valuable engagements abroad, as well as nominations for the Two Thousand Guineas and the rich Newmarket Stakes, which may induce one or other of them to decline the Derby. A good other account for the same old level betters up of Epsom. Le Nord, Heaume, and Riviera against the field for the Derby day after day, as a horse trained for the Newmarket Stakes or the Grand Prix de Paris can scarcely do himself justice in the Derby.

own juvenile cracks, there are no suspicions of their soundness. I cannot, in face of the phenomenal lot of classic youngsters we have in training now, recommend either of these sons of Chester, who are set a big task when asked to try conclusions with such as Surefoot, Le Nord, Heaume, and company.

Martagon, a son of Bend Or and stable companion to Alloway, has certainly not fulfilled his early promise, but I think he has more of the makings of a Derby horse in his shape and looks than Springfield's son. Master Astley is trained at George Dawson's, but as he has never run in public, and has no recommendation beyond being a full brother to Melton, I can say nothing in his favour. Loup is evidently no stayer, and of Jewitt's lot Ostrogoth and Rathel have not, so far, shown themselves to be of the type of Derby winners. Right Away and Orwell, with Golden Gate, are both trained at Kingsclere, and of this trio the former is generally regarded as the better. A son of Wisdom, he has shown himself a colt of no little merit, having won five out of seven fulfilled engagements; whilst, on the other hand, Orwell has given most curious in-and-out running. His best performance was to run Signorina to a head at Sandown Park, and possibly that pushing finish has never been forgotten by the Duke of Westminster's colt. Surefoot's form places him pretty well at the top of the tree in Derby calculations, as Signorina is not entered in that race. He won all but one of his four engagements, and although Semolina got home in front of him at Ascot, it is highly improbable that the Duke of Portland's game little filly will ever occupy such a position again. In the three races he has won Surefoot has beaten, among others, such cracks as Hersey, Heaume, and Far Niente. In Josselin's hands Wisdom's son may be expected to do credit to himself and his backers. He is a nailing good colt, and, despite the rumours afloat concerning his temper, I shall take Surefoot as my winter selection for the Derby, and regard Le Nord as his most dangerous opponent.

Footballers have had a busy time of it during the past few days, and within the next few weeks the winter game will be at its zenith. The Corinthians on their Northern tour began badly. After the splendid victory they gained over Preston North End in the memorable match at Richmond some weeks ago, there seemed every probability of their gaining a second triumph when they met the Association Cup-holders last Saturday week. But the Corinthians found the "red and white" battle ground to be a fast and springy grass at Richmond. It checked the rush of their forwards, and thus to a certain extent broke up the completeness of their combination. The ground at Deepdale on this occasion was hardened by the overnight frost, and although it did not seriously interfere with the game, it was not in a condition to favour really brilliant play. Both sides played evenly, the Corinthians putting the international players in the field. The Corinthians had to play against the wind, and North End at the outset were dangerous, as after twice nearly getting a goal they scored, thanks to N. J. Ross, and the latter scored again before half-time, so that on resuming Preston North End were two goals to nil. Ross, on recommending, was early injured, and had to retire, and then Green, who had the misfortune to break his collar-bone, and had to be taken to the infirmary. Despite these drawbacks Preston only lost one goal, and in the end won by two goals to one. When the game was over Ross, senior, who had resumed play, was taken to a doctor, who ordered him to bed, as his right shoulder was badly injured.

To Sunderland the Corinthians journeyed next, where they met Durham County. Here once more the fortune of war went against them, as Brann was hurt after twenty minutes' play, and the Corinthians only played ten men for the rest of the game. In the first ten minutes Durham scored a goal, and winning one more after a hard fight, the Corinthians sustained their second defeat by two goals to one. As Glasgow, however, on Wednesday, they met the famous Queen's Park team, and beat that previously unbeaten combination by four goals to one, the Scotchmen being outplayed throughout.

The Old Leysians' Rugby combination began well, as after their victory over the Manchester Club at Whalley Range on Saturday, they met Salford on Monday, and scored another victory, winning by a goal, two tries, and one minor. Salford's two tries and the minor, after a Salford-Leysians' game. On Tuesday, however, their run of victory was checked, as they met Huddersfield on the ground of the latter, and were beaten by three goals and one minor to one goal and one minor.

The four leading clubs in the League championship are so far Preston North End (24 points), who now have to meet Wolverhampton Wanderers, Derby County, Notts County (twice), and (probably) Accrington, Everton (23 points), who have to meet Aston Villa, West Bromwich Albion (twice), Accrington, Derby County, and Burnley; Blackburn Rovers (22 points), who must oppose Accrington, Preston North End, Derby County, and Bolton Wanderers (twice).

The new year opened at Manchester with a steepchase meeting, according to custom. Beyond the fact that the weather was fine and the attendance good, there is little to record concerning the racing. Alva won the Club Steeplechase in workmanlike fashion for a young horse, and he is a promising recruit to the champions of the chase, which is well-backed. Bass Steeplechase. Macpherson having run his field, including the worn-out Grand National winner, Gamcock, off their legs in the Manchester Steeplechase, won that event in a canter. Lente had an easy victory in the Selling Hurdle Race, owing to Old Gold's breakdown, and other races fell to Porteus and Eversfield.

Talk in sporting circles is still of the disgraceful Smith and Slavin fight at Bruges. The so-called chief organs of sporting opinion, who should be first and foremost in a crusade against the scandalous and scoundrelous and their hirelings who bounded on the gang who assisted Smith to make the show of a fight, hang back from the serious duty demanded of them, and prefer to take none of the arch-conspirators. We must then wait for the development of events which is hoped the Pelican Club inquiry will bring forth next Wednesday. Were I a millionaire, I would proclaim the names of these infamous desperado-hirelings from the houseposts, but I cannot afford to act as a sporting philanthropist, and must leave the denunciation to those who can afford to call the tune and pay the piper.

It is a blot on our boasted civilisation when we know that in the latter end of the nineteenth century ruffians can be hired to maim, wound, and possibly murder, according to the price paid, just as easily as people could be poisoned in the days of the Borgia, stilettoed to death by the bravos in the middle ages, or removed off the face of the earth by Colonel Blou and his Alsatian bullies in the worst days of the Stuarts.

A curious part of the sporting dailies have played in the fray up to the present time. On Wednesday one of them announced that Slavin had received the £2000 which Mr. Abington had paid for Smith's services. On Thursday it admitted that Slavin dictated this statement, and a large sum of money. The name of this party and why the money was given to Slavin has not yet cropped up. As we know so far who has contributed to Slavin's public testimonial, which now amounts to nearly

£200, and also all the details connected with the Pelican bet and proposed presentation purse, why should we not be made acquainted with the name of the individual who has posed as Slavin's good fairy? In these days of modern advertising it is not the fashion to do good by stealth, and Slavin himself will do well to publish this benefactor's name. Slavin himself could, I dare swear, give a correct guess at the name of the man who paid the round to a scoundrel like him. As he seems out of all the people mixed up in the affair to be the only individual possessing any pluck, he should speak out and unmask this scoundrel. By so doing he would greatly benefit the interests of British sport.

## MURDER BY A MOTHER AT WOOD GREEN.

At Wood Green, Eliza Whorlow, wife of a cyclist's salesman, living at 1, Granville-terrace, Lordship-lane, Wood Green, on Wednesday entered the police station, and stated that she had killed her little boy by cutting his throat. She was detained, and the police immediately proceeded to the house. The door was opened by a sister of Mrs. Whorlow, who, in reply to questions put to her, said she knew nothing of the matter. The husband was at once aroused, he being in bed, and, together with the police, they went to a bedroom at the top of the house, when they were horrified to find that the woman's statement was correct. The boy, who is stated to be 8 years old, was found lying in bed, with his throat cut, the blood having run down his face and neck. The doctor, who was called, pronounced him dead. A razor was found on the table near the bed, and the bedclothes were saturated with blood.

## Police Court Proceedings.

At the Edmonton Petty Sessions on Thursday, before Alderman Latham, Mr. Joseph Howard, M.P., and other justices, the prisoner, Eliza Whorlow, aged 43 years, was charged with feloniously killing her son, Harold Ernest, aged 8 years, by cutting his throat with a razor. Mr. John Avery, solicitor, defended the accused. She was accompanied with a doctor, who was sworn, and who stated that he had examined the body, and did not appear to hear the evidence or to recognise the gravity of the charge brought against her. The first witness called was acting-sergeant Holder, who deposed that at eight o'clock on the previous morning the prisoner came into Wood Green Police Station, and, without any solicitation, gave her name, age, and address, and said that she wished to give herself up for murdering her little boy. She remained in the station until a constable, constable Matcham, was sent to her home to make inquiries. Matcham, who was next called, stated that as directed he went to the house. In the presence of prisoner's husband and a female relative, he entered an attic, in which he found a bed, on the furniture of which there was blood. A little girl, named Annie Whorlow, got out of the bed, and began to cry. He then saw a razor on the left side of the bed, and a wound on the left side of his neck. A razor stained with blood lay on a table in the room. Mr. Avery asked both witnesses if they noticed a strangeness in the manner of the accused when she came to the station, and the sergeant replied that she seemed despondent, and the constable thought she appeared out of her mind. The bench remanded the case pending the inquest.

## A MUDDERER'S LETTER.

Haunting his Mother-in-Law. West, the travelling showman, who was executed the other day for the murder of his wife at Leeds (as described in another column), wrote a farewell letter to one of his Derby acquaintances. It is addressed, "Mr. Thomas Ilbert, East Street, Mordridge, Derby," and is written on the ordinary prison note paper. It is signed by "West," but bears the initials of the prisoner of the goal, and is couched in the following terms:—"Saturday, December 23 1889,—dear friend I write these few lines to you hoping to find you in good health and spirits as possible and my time is short now and I shall be glad when it is over and deal with as my life has been nothing but a misery to me now for the last months I have ever since I first found my wife out about her doings and her wretched old thing of a mother as caused all our trouble but I don't care I am very glad to think that I know the going of my dear wife, and I have had her buried as nice and as respectable as any body could be and as comfortable as can be and they have got plenty of my money to put up a nice grave stone and they have got her insurance money as well. 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